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Wilmington Town Crier

70TH YEAR NO. 9 PHONE 978-658-2346 FEBRUARY 28, 2024 www.HomeNewsHere.com 20 PAGES

Select Board receive presentations, set interview dates

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Monday Feb. 26, the Select Board moved forward the Green Meadow Drive street acceptance process, approved a request to support a grant application, and set dates for candidate interviews for the permanent town manager position.

The official public hearing for the street acceptance process was quickly open and shut, and the board voted to accept the further action necessary to allow the vote to come up at the annual Town Meeting on Saturday, May 4.

Historical Commission Chair Bonny Smith introduced Town Museum Curator Matt Beres to explain the grant they were seeking from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund. Beres shared that the Harnden Tavern and the Carriage House roofs both needed replacing, and were funded by Town Meeting last year, but the bids they received were significantly higher than anticipated.

Therefore, they were seeking a grant to match the funds approved by the town. He said that

the grant application was March 15.

Kevin Cairra asked about the discrepancy between the allocation and the bids. Beres described bids in the amounts of \$288,000 and \$468,000 compared to the allocated \$140,000. Another Historical Commission member spoke up from the audience to describe that the roof for the Harnden Tavern requires a specialty, which could be the reason why the bids were so high.

Smith asked the board what they could do if the grant didn't provide all the money they need for the two roofs, and Cairra suggested they submit an article for this upcoming Town Meeting.

The board voted in favor of signing the letter of support and the preservation restriction.

They later set interview dates for the recommended candidates for the position of permanent town manager. Chair Gary DePalma initially suggested March 12 for interviews. However, when it was clarified that the board would be holding four interviews, Greg Bendel suggested they spread those interviews out over several nights and then take the vote at a later date.

They thought to hold

interviews during their regularly scheduled meeting on March 11, but eventually decided on March 12 and 13 for interviews and another meeting on March 18 to make their vote on a final candidate. The first interview of each night would begin at 6:15 p.m., and the second at 7:30 p.m.

They also agreed to meet at 6 p.m. on March 18 for the discussion and vote on a final candidate.

Bendel asked about how many questions the board members should each prepare, and DePalma said he didn't have that answer but would be meeting with the consulting firm working on the town manager search. He also promised that the board members would receive the files on each candidate at least one week ahead of their interviews.

Frank West asked how many applicants there were initially, and DePalma said he didn't have the liberty to answer that question.

Communications received that night came from Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich pertaining to the proposed multi-family housing as of right zoning.

DATES | PAGE A11W



Congratulations to Sergeant Johnson and Officer DeBarros

Tuesday morning, Wilmington's newest police officer and newest sergeant were officially sworn in. "We wish Sergeant Michael Johnson and officer Joshua DeBarros all the best in their careers with the Wilmington Police Department!" the department stated.

(Courtesy photos)

Select Board review Town Meeting articles

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Select Board reviewed all of the proposed warrant articles for this year's annual Town Meeting during their meeting on Feb. 26.

Temporary Town Manager Lou Cimaglia first listed the warrant articles submitted by resident petition. These are respectively articles 34-37 on the warrant.

Cimaglia explained there was a proposed rezone from Residential-60 to Residential-20 zoning by K. Costa, a request by K. Barrett to purchase town-owned land on Molloy Road, a request to rezone the property at 685 Main St. from general business to general industrial, and a proposal to rename the Woburn Street School to the Richardson Elementary School.

He then described the non-petitioned warrant articles. Article 1 establishes the Town Meeting. Article 2 involves hearing reports from various committees.

A proposal to pay the town's unpaid bills is made in article 3, and Cimaglia reported that there is currently only one bill to be paid. Article 4 would establish the town's agreement with one or more banks. Article 5 includes the expenses and salaries of officers and departments.

Requests for purchasing capital equipment are contained in article 6. This includes a handicap van for elderly services in the amount of \$93,000; a replacement ambulance for the fire department in the amount of \$475,000; a truck, a front-end loader, a heavy duty mini wing mower, and a heavy duty field groomer for the DPW totaling over \$900,000; a public buildings department truck for \$89,000; and a handicap accessible minivan for the school department for \$75,000.

Article 9 proposes the procurement of \$50,000 for the 4th of July celebration, and article 10 proposes \$13,000 for Memorial and Veterans' days. Article 11 sets aside money for the VFW and the American Legion Clubhouse.

Article 12 establishes amounts for the compost bin revolving fund and subsurface sewage. Article 13 proposes the rehabilitation of metal drainage at 340 Ballardvale St.

Article 14 would fund a feasibility study for im-

provements at the Lowell Street field recreation area in the amount of \$50,000. Another feasibility study is proposed by Article 16 for the new fire substation in the amount of \$600,000.

Article 16 involves fiber connections at various new buildings. Article 17 would provide money for the police fire range. Article 18 proposes money for new police tasers in the amount of \$20,000.

Articles 19, 20, and 21 involve sewer and cemetery developments.

High school technology updates for projectors, network switches, Chromebooks, and wireless access are requested in articles 22 through 25.

There is a proposed OPED payment for \$1 million in Article 26, capital stabilization fund \$1 million in Article 27, and Middlesex Retirement System payment \$1.5 million in Article 28.

Article 29 would move around various allocated funds from this past year's budget.

Article 30 is the proposal for street acceptance for Green Meadow Drive.

Article 31 is the proposed rezoning for the multi-family housing as of right zone required because the town is considered an MBTA community. Cimaglia also mentioned here

ARTICLES | PAGE A11W

Finance director leaving after five years

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — In February, the town hall website added a position for finance director/town accountant. The post reads

that the position is open until filled, and that it reports to the town manager and the Select Board. The proposed salary range is \$112,967.05 through \$142,948.76 depending on experience.

The person appointed will serve as Chief Financial Officer and oversee the town's financial activities including accounting, collections, pur-

FINANCE | PAGE A11W

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Wilmington Library News:

Discussion and Q&A with Patriots editor Paul Perillo on March 14

Adult Programs

Needleworkers at Night

Monday, March 4, 6 p.m.

These nighttime sessions are perfect for anyone who does any kind of needle craft but can't make it to Needleworkers during the day! Drop-in. This group now meets every Monday in the cozy seating area on the first floor of the library.

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, March 5, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6, 2 p.m.

Saturday, March 9, 2 p.m.

Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by. Drop-in Tech Help.

Chair Yoga Series with the Yoga Loft

Tuesday, March 5, 2:30 p.m.

Join us for a month of Chair Yoga sessions hosted by The Yoga Loft. We will be practicing simple yoga moves, breathing and stretching both seated in the chair and using the chair for a prop. No experience necessary. Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers!



▲ Now that legendary coach Bill Belichick and the GOAT Tom Brady have left the New England Patriots, what's next for the team? Hear the stories behind the new Apple TV+ documentary The Dynasty with Paul Perillo, the longtime Patriots.com editor, frequent contributor to 98.5 Sports Hub's flagship program Felger & Mazz, and co-host of the Patriots Unfiltered podcast, as he discusses the six-time Super Bowl champs and answers all your questions. (Courtesy photo)

group geared towards readers in their 20's and 30's. The featured book for this meeting is Happy Place by Emily Henry. Location TBD!

Needleworkers

Friday, March 8, 10 a.m.

This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy a little conversation and camaraderie. Drop in.

OFFSITE

Pints + Pages

Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m.

Join us for a social book

Youth Programs

Wilmington Community Playgroup

Monday, March 4, 10 a.m.

Join CTI for a community playgroup where we'll work on Early Literacy skills and much, much more! Ages 0-6, siblings welcome

Pajama Storytime

Monday, March 4, 6 p.m.

Wear your coziest pajamas to this special story-

time! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement for children ages 2-6! Ages 2-6

Preschool Storytime

Tuesday, March 5, 10 a.m.

Preschool Storytime includes books, rhymes, music and movement for ages 3-6! Ages 3-6

Time for Twos

Wednesday, March 6, 10 a.m.

Join us at our Time for

Twos! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Age 2

Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, March 6, 4 p.m.

A book club for students in Kindergarten through Grade 2. Children will enjoy a variety of books while practicing reading and comprehension skills. Each session will end with time to socialize during a craft or activity! Grades K-2

Girls Who Code

Wednesday, March 6, 6 p.m.

Girls Who Code is an organization that aims to close the gender gap in STEM fields by teaching girls to code. Grades 3-5

Baby Time

Thursday, March 7, 10 a.m.

Baby Time includes books, rhymes, music and movement for children ages 0-23 months! Ages 0-23 months

Music with Dara

Friday, March 8, 4 p.m.

With keyboard, felt board, and finger puppets, Dara weaves songs (old and new favorites) and creative movement for a fun-filled musical program! Ages 2-5, siblings welcome

Teen Leadership Council

Saturday, March 9, 11 a.m.

Are you interested in advocating for what you want at WML? Have you volunteered before, but want to commit to more? Join our new Teen Leadership Council! Please e-mail Teen Librarian scottger@wilmlibrary.org with any questions. Grades 7-12

Saturday, March 9, 3 p.m.

Interested in finding out more about this fantasy tabletop role-playing game, or looking for a group to play with? This month's session will be IN PERSON at the library. You may also participate on Discord, a private server. We use DnDBeyond to track and create our characters. Grades 6-12

Additional Information

Book Store Next Door — Winter Hours

The Book Store Next Door is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shop discount books! Paperbacks for \$1 and hardcovers for \$2. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Library and all proceeds help support library programs.

Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list on our website!

WML In-Person Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs. Please check our website on the day of the program to confirm location. Masks are no longer required for vaccinated patrons while visiting the library.

WML Virtual Programming

The library continues to offer a variety of virtual events. Please note that registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Go to wilmlibrary.org to register or call 978-658-2967.

READING — The Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) is pleased to announce the acceleration of its decarbonization efforts through the recent update to Policy 30 and accelerated retirement of non-carbon certificates. Approved by both the Board of Commissioners (BOC) and Citizens' Advisory Board (CAB), the updated Policy 30, effective immediately, reinforces RMLD's commitment to decarbonization while maintaining its characteristic low rates and high reliability. RMLD's mission is to provide its

RMLD accelerates decarbonization efforts

customers with reliable, low-cost, and increasingly non-carbon energy. RMLD's Policy 30, initiated in 2021 in response to Massachusetts' landmark climate legislation, aligns with the state's goal for municipal light plants (MLPs). RMLD is one of 41 in the Commonwealth to deliver 50% non-emitting electricity by 2030 and attain "net zero" emissions by 2050. RMLD's policy reviews annual non-carbon goals, strategically designed to

minimize cost impacts on ratepayers. While the Commonwealth's legislation sets decade-long intervals, RMLD's approach prioritizes annual, incremental changes to ensure a smooth and economical transition, avoiding potential rate shocks associated with non-carbon-generated electricity expenses. As part of this update, RMLD accelerated the retirement of non-carbon certificates that represent renewable, emission-free, and clean energy. RMLD is now targeting an annual certificate retirement rate of up to 55% of annual retail kWh sales in 2024. RMLD has built a diver-

sified power supply portfolio, which includes a range of certificates, including Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), Emission Free Energy Certificates (EFECs), and Clean Energy Standard Certificates (CECs). These certificates are seamlessly integrated with purchased power, ensuring a comprehensive approach to sustainability rather than merely obtaining certificates as compliance tools. Retirement of qualified certificates at the regional NEPOOL GIS shows compliance with the 2021 Massachusetts Climate Legislation. Under this legisla-

tion, MLPs must demonstrate compliance with 50% clean energy by 2030, 75% by 2040, and net zero by 2050 by retiring non-carbon certificates. RMLD will demonstrate this compliance through the retirement of RECs, EFECs, and CECs certificates. RMLD will exceed the 2030 threshold in 2024 — six years ahead of the state mandate. This accelerated retirement plan is designed to ensure a smooth and continuous transition toward a cleaner energy future in alignment with the state's ambitious carbon reduction goals. The acceleration of cer-

tificate retirement will result in a modest increase of 69 cents on the average monthly residential bill of \$150. "RMLD's accelerated retirement of certificates underscores our dedication to responsible decarbonization," said RMLD General Manager Greg Phipps. "By strategically managing the retirement rate, we aim to minimize the impact on our customers while supporting the Commonwealth's non-carbon goals, summarized in RMLD's mission of providing reliable, low-cost, and non-carbon electricity." To read the updated Policy 30, please visit <https://www.rmld.com/board-commissioners/pages/rmld-policies>.

Advertisement

It's Your Money

by Todd Brisbois

Changes coming in the amount you can give away during your life or upon your death before incurring gift or estate tax: — PART I —

Under the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed in 2017, the basic exclusion amount (the amount you can give away during your life or upon your death before incurring any gift, estate, or GST tax) is scheduled to decrease to \$5 million (plus an inflation adjustment) beginning January 1, 2026.

Since 2021, the basic exclusion amount has increased twice. In 2022, the basic exclusion amount increased from \$11.7 million to \$12.06 million. In 2024, the basic exclusion amount increased by \$860,000 to \$12.92 million.

This means that in 2024, a married couple who has not made any prior taxable gifts has a combined \$25.84 million of exemption to use. Even individuals who have used most or all of their exemption in prior years can still benefit from the additional \$860,000 of exemption available this year.

Additionally, the gift tax annual exclusion (the amount you can give to an individual each year without the gift being subject to gift tax) increased for a second year in a row, from \$15,000 in 2021, to \$16,000 in 2022, and to \$17,000 in 2024. This means that in 2024, a married couple electing to split their gifts can give \$34,000 per donee (the person who receives the gift) without incurring any gift tax.

In 2024, you are still within the window of opportunity to implement a wide range of viable and effective planning techniques to take advantage of the current federal exemptions before they decrease in 2026.

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Wilmington Good Guy Committee continues to seek nominations

WILMINGTON — Let us know whom you think is deserving of recognition for their efforts to make Wilmington a great community. Tell us about their involvement with Wilmington's youth population, the senior citizens, the underprivileged, or just "being involved" in the community. How does this individual stand out above all of the others?

Who is that person who always seems to be around when help or direction is needed?... who always steps up when leadership is needed? In an era when "public service" is becoming less and less recognized, there are still people out there making a difference. Those people deserve to be recognized!

Send your nomination by email to WilmingtonGoodGuy@gmail.com or by postal mail to Wilmington Good Guy Committee c/o 2 West St. Wilmington, 01887. Nominations must be received by Friday, March 29. The 2024 Wilmington Good Guy will be honored with a Dinner and recognition on Friday, May 10, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus Hall.

Tickets will be available beginning on April 8, 2024. Then come join us at 2023 Wilmington Good Guy Pat Giroux "Passes the Torch" to our newest recipient.

The evening will be hosted by Wilmington "legend" and former Good Guy, stand-up comedian Steve Bjork.

News and notes from WCTV

Hello friends and neighbors! Here's what's going on at WCTV!

NEW PROGRAMMING JUST FOR YOU!

Current Insights Podcast Episode 10 — Guiding the Grid: Insights from RMLD's General Manager.

In this special episode, RMLD flips the script! Current Insights host and General Manager, Greg Phipps sits in the hot-seat and shares his journey in the utility industry while discussing RMLD's greatest challenges including aging infrastructure, rate

affordability, and cybersecurity threats.

Senior Night 2024 Wilmington Boys Basketball Team

Senior Night was full of special moments for Wilmington High boys basketball, tops among them were senior reserve Charlie Rosa dropping several buckets, and Noah Spencer — last year's leading scorer, who missed all of the football season and the entire basketball season until now due to a knee injury — doing work in the paint.

*These programs can be viewed on WCTV channels

or on WCTV's Youtube channel: WCTV Wilmington.

Meetings covered by WCTV:

Thursday March 7, 7 p.m. — Finance Committee

View on: Verizon channel 38 and Comcast channel 22.

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Meetings and Government Channel: Verizon 38, Comcast 22.

Access Channel: Verizon 38, Comcast 6.

To watch programs On-Demand or for more information check us out at WCTV.org.

WCTV is located at 10 Waltham Street, Wilmington

Office hours by appointment: (978) 657-4066.

Questions about WCTV? Contact: info@wctv.org.

OBITUARIES

Raymond J. Hebert

Enlisted in the US Air Force

Raymond J. Hebert, 93, of Tewksbury, formerly of Reading, Woburn, and Gardner, died peacefully on Feb. 25, 2024, surrounded by his family whom he loved so dearly.

Born in Gardner on Dec. 24, 1930, he was the son of the late Edmond and Claire (Brouillet) Hebert.

He graduated from Gardner High School Class of 1948 and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force shortly thereafter. Following Basic Training, he was assigned to Templehof Air Force Base in Berlin, Germany where he took part in the Berlin Airlift.

Following a three-year assignment at Templehof, he was assigned to Warner Robins Air Force Base in Georgia until his discharge in August 1952. He is a Korean War veteran and earned the Germany Occupation Medal, the Berlin Airlift Medal with Device, the Medal for Humane Action, and the Good Conduct Medal.

Soon after his discharge, he enrolled at Worcester Junior College where he earned an Associate De-

gree in Electrical Engineering. He was employed by Raytheon at its Missile Systems Plant in Lowell for 30 years until his retirement.

In August of 1955 he married Anna Lavoie and they moved to Reading. He was a parishioner of St. Agnes Church. He was active in its new scouting program and later in its youth group, Confirmation Team, and Parish Retreat programs. He was also a Eucharistic Minister.

He later moved to Woburn, but continued his ties with St. Agnes. He later moved to Tewksbury where he became a member of St. William's Church. Here he was a Eucharistic Minister serving residents of Blaire House Nursing Home. He considered this one of the most enjoyable things he ever did.

He enjoyed reading, bible study, walking, bicycling, photography, piano, time spent at the Tewksbury Senior Center playing Bingo, and meeting with the men's group.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Anna (Lavoie) Hebert, his son, Paul He-



bert of Windham, NH, his daughter Linda Allen and her husband Richard of Chelmsford, and by his daughter Lisa McGinn and her husband John of Tewksbury; one sister, Eleanor Ingves Babineau of Titusville, FL; four grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Ray was predeceased by his daughter-in-law, Donna Hebert of Windham, NH and his brother, Roger Hebert of Gardner.

Services will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, donations in Raymond's name may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Eugene L. 'Gene' Roux

Navy veteran, served during WWII

Eugene L. "Gene" Roux lifelong Tewksbury resident and patriarch of well-known family passed away peacefully on Feb. 23 after years of declining health at the Baker-Katz Skilled Nursing facility in Haverhill.

Gene was born in Tewksbury on Dec. 4, 1928. He spent his entire life in the town of Tewksbury. He was the youngest son of Phaida J. and Maria (LeMay) Roux. Gene was predeceased by his wife Dorothy who passed away in 2006.

Gene was a Navy veteran that served on the USS Midway in WWII and the Korean War.

After serving his country, Gene worked at the Tewksbury State Hospital where he would work for many decades and ultimately retire.

In 1956 he started Tewksbury Sewer Service with his wife Dorothy which still operates today.

Gene was known across the area as someone who would do anything to help anybody in need. The years with Tewksbury Sewer Service became many late nights and holiday emergency calls from businesses and people in need.

Gene never hesitated to find a way to get to their problem and solve the issues. Many a Christmas Eve was spent on emergency calls to restaurants and homes to help them stay in business and functioning. This level of service is what allowed Gene to build a thriving business that still runs today.

His sons took the torch that was passed to them and continued that level of service.

Upon returning from his service, he married Dorothy (McCartney) and started a family in the "Roux

Village" situated in the center of Tewksbury.

They had four sons and were always active at their sons' sporting events, both attending and hosting post-game gatherings. Gene was always there to hand you a beer and have a laugh back at the house.

Gene also was a charter member of the Tewksbury-Wilmington Elks and a past Commander of the American Legion.

Gene was an avid sports fan. For many years he wouldn't miss a Bruins game. He also always had the Red Sox game on the radio during the long nights of working on the sewer truck.

Above all else, Gene's passion was simply hard work. He enjoyed a shovel in his hands and valued physical labor above all else. This blue-collar grit paid off for he and his family and is still evident across his sons today.

He loved hosting people for horseshoe tournaments and later became a passionate pool player. The Goat Bar was always the local hangout and years back the sounds of horseshoes clanging became an every day/night occurrence.

When pool became his game, the basement was full of people waiting to get the next game. Gene, aka "The Rhino," was always the man to beat.

His son's friends have vivid memories of those nights of playing pool, drinking beer and earning the bragging rights of beating the "The Rhino!"

Gene was the youngest and last surviving member of Phaida and Maria's family. His siblings Gloria, Elaine, Victor, Louis and Pauline all passed away over the years.

Gene is survived by his sons Charles and his wife



Linda of Tewksbury, Joseph and his wife Julie of Ashville, NC and Eric and his wife Michelle of Salem, NH.

He also has 14 grandchildren: Michael, Danielle, Nicole, Elizabeth, Matthew, Anthony, Joey, Rene, Jesse, Christine, Casey, Cameron, Brady, and Jordan.

He also leaves 24 great grandchildren. He was also pre-deceased by his son Eugene (Mouse) Roux who passed away in 2021.

In addition to his immediate family, several others played a key role in Gene's life. Kevin Conlon became a 5th son in many ways and was always there for a beer or to help Gene.

Bonnie Rosemond stepped up as a valued caretaker for Gene, especially during the last few difficult years. Their friendship and support was a true blessing in the last years of Gene's life.

You are welcome to attend his calling hours on Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the Tewksbury Funeral Home, 1 Dewey Street, Tewksbury, MA. His funeral service will take place in the funeral home at the conclusion of the calling hours at 11 a.m. Burial will follow at the Tewksbury Cemetery.

www.tewksburyfuneralhome.com

MassDevelopment awards funding for entrepreneurship center

LOWELL — Community Teamwork had receiving received a \$125,000 grant from MassDevelopment in an effort to help fund its Entrepreneurship Center. The funding will be focused towards the TDI Lowell ACRE Capacity Improvement Program, which will assist struggling small business owners in the Acre neighborhood district with an assessment of their business activities, identification of areas they could improve in, technical assistance from the Entrepreneurship Center, and stabilization funds business owners will use to pay for services which would bring about changes suggested by our staff.

The Entrepreneurship Center, formerly known as the Merrimack Valley Small Business Center, was founded in 1998 to provide technical assistance for low and very low-income entrepreneurs to help them create, sustain and grow micro-enterprises.

Since its rebranding into the Entrepreneurship Center in 2019, its services have expanded throughout Middlesex and Essex County, and refocused its program offerings and service model to better serve the diverse needs of its disadvantaged micro-enterprise clients.

The Transformative Development Initiative (TDI)

is MassDevelopment's signature place-based economic development program for Gateway City downtowns and commercial districts.

TDI uses an accelerator model, committing intensive resources for a defined period to real estate development, small business stability and growth, arts and cultural amenities, placemaking, and targeted technical assistance and strategic planning. This work is laid on a platform of community engagement and partnership development; the agency requires that cities assemble a cross-sector partnership to apply, and over the course of the program works to make the partnership more representative of the neighborhood and use it as a platform to grow sustaining, working relationships.

First added to the TDI "toolkit" in 2017, in response to local partners demonstrating the need for direct funding for small-business support, TDI Local supports local market development by fostering business, resident, and property-owner engagement, building community identity, and improving the public realm in TDI districts.

"This program will provide crucial holistic support to independent businesses in Lowell's Acre neighborhood, a TDI District. The partnership between MassDe-

velopment and Community Teamwork's Entrepreneurship Center is an exemplary government-nonprofit partnership in service to the community," said Ali Carter, City of Lowell Director of Economic Development.

"In working the TDI Partnership for the Lowell Acre Community, we look forward to investing our time and effort in this community to help its businesses prosper. The location between UMass Lowell and the entire downtown corridor make this area potentially a conduit for business and cultural exchange. The area is attracting investment, changing before our very eyes while maintaining its essential character and I look forward to seeing the results."

MassDevelopment, the state's development finance agency and land bank, works with businesses, nonprofits, banks, and communities to stimulate economic growth across the Commonwealth.

During FY2023, Mass Development financed or managed 545 projects generating investment of more than \$2 billion in the Massachusetts economy. These projects are estimated to create or support 10,522 jobs and build or preserve 1,583 housing units.

FEMA awards nearly \$13.5M for COVID school testing costs

BOSTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending almost \$13.5 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse it for the cost of providing testing at public schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$13,450,826 Public Assistance grant will reimburse the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for contracting with Trans Med USA Inc. and Merrow Medical to provide test kits at schools between July 2022 and May 2023.

The department purchased and distributed

1,089,354 COVID-19 antigen tests to students, faculty and staff at schools statewide during that time period.

"FEMA is pleased to be able to assist Massachusetts with these costs," said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. "Reimbursing state, county, and municipal governments — as well as eligible non-profits and tribal entities — for the costs incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic is an important part of our nation's ongoing recovery."

FEMA's Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding

for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.

So far, FEMA has provided nearly \$2.8 billion in Public Assistance grants to Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for pandemic-related expenses.

Additional information about FEMA's Public Assistance program is available at <https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>. To learn more about the COVID-19 response in Massachusetts, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4496>.

Tewksbury seeking nominations for annual Krissy Polimeno award

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Public Schools is seeking nominations for the 2024 annual Krissy Polimeno Outstanding Educator Award to recognize an individual who has had a significant impact on a Tewksbury school or the district.

The award will be given annually to honor an individual educator in the area of active involvement, volunteering, and giving a generous amount of time and energy to the quality of the educational system as an advocate for students in the Tewksbury Public Schools.

Criteria includes leadership, special action and inspiration as a role model to peers and students. Polimeno Nomination Form.

The Krissy Polimeno Outstanding Educator Award was first presented by the School Committee in 2019 to Krissy Polimeno and will be given out to an individual that is notable for their great contributions of charity, leadership, volunteering and service to the schools of Tewksbury.

Past recipients include Krissy Polimeno, Scott Callanan, TMHS Social

Studies teacher, and Principal Jay Harding and Assistant Principal Robert Rogers.

The deadline for nominations is April 12, 2024. A brief narrative with the application is encouraged.

Nominations may be sent to Gail Johnson, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools, gjohnson@tewksbury.k12.ma.us or by mail to: Tewksbury Public Schools, Office of the Superintendent, 139 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876.

Tewksbury seeking nominations for annual Ginsburg Family award

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Public Schools is seeking nominations for the 2024 annual Ginsburg Family Award to recognize an individual, a group, or a company/organization who has had a significant impact on the Tewksbury Public Schools in the area of physical, monetary, tangible contribution(s), or volunteering for the benefit of a school or the district. Ginsburg Nomination Form.

The Ginsburg Family Award is named for the

well-known charitable family, Marc and Leisa Ginsburg, and is given out to an individual or organization that is notable for their great contributions of charity and service to the schools of Tewksbury.

Past recipients include the Ginsburg family, the Tewksbury Rotary Club, the Phil French family, the Tewksbury Education Foundation, Larry and Sandy Polimeno, Wamesit Lanes (the MacLaren family), and Donna's Donuts (the Wilson family).

TMHS Best Buddies, and Holt & Bugbee Foundation.

The deadline for nominations is April 12, 2024. A brief narrative with the application is encouraged.

Nominations may be sent to Gail Johnson, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools, gjohnson@tewksbury.k12.ma.us or by mail to: Tewksbury Public Schools, Office of the Superintendent, 139 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876.

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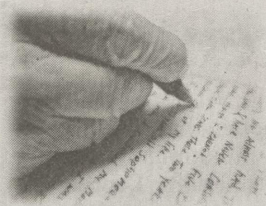
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Letter to the editor

Support Ryder for Tewksbury Select Board

On April 6, Tewksbury will hold our annual town election. I'm writing this note in support of Mr. Eric Ryder for the Tewksbury Select Board.

Why Mr. Ryder? Eric is a caring, matter of fact, no-nonsense type of guy. Eric holds himself and others to high expectations. Eric is very engaging; he is always willing to take a phone call... and follow-up. As a local leader that is paramount.

Along those same lines, it's imperative that elected officials "dig-in" on EVERY issue — to understand and consider the pros & cons to best serve the residents.

I can tell you that Eric does his homework and due diligence. In a nutshell, cutting corners is not in Eric's vocabulary.

During these jittery times, with every dollar being stretched, experienced municipal leaders with traditional family values are a must. I know that Eric is one of those battle-tested leaders.

On April 6, looking forward to a solid voter turnout and thank you for considering Eric Ryder for the Tewksbury Select Board.

Jay & Mary Kelly
Tewksbury

Good Neighbor Energy Fund available to eligible households

CANTON — As winter temperatures continue to drop, the sponsoring energy companies of the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund and its administrator, The Salvation Army, encourage those who are struggling financially due to higher prices for necessities or other crises to apply for home energy assistance by visiting their local Salvation Army Corps Community Center.

If unsure of where the nearest Community Center is located, please visit www.magoodneighbor.org.

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is often the last resort for families who are in temporary financial difficulty and do not qualify for federal and state fuel assistance programs such as LIHEAP. The Fund's grants are paid directly to the energy provider for households whose gross income falls between 60 and 80 percent of the state's median income levels.

For example, a household size of 4 would need to have a total gross yearly income of between \$87,294 and \$116,392 to qualify. This campaign year's Fund disbursement is \$400 per eligible household per heating season.

"Prices for basic needs like food, rent and utilities remain elevated this winter making it difficult for many to make ends meet, especially with temperatures continuing to drop," said Marie McCabe, Chairperson of the 2024 Good Neighbor Energy Fund campaign and Customer Service Representative for North Attleborough Electric Department. "The Fund is a resource for moderate income households in temporary crisis. We encourage everyone who thinks they are eligible to apply to the

program."

The Fund's 39th annual "Give the Gift of Warmth" campaign is a cooperative effort between the Fund's 18 sponsoring energy companies, the general public and the corporate community to raise \$500,000 and help an anticipated 1,500 households. The campaign relies on the generosity of individuals, families, local corporations and foundations for support and has raised more than \$24.5 million and assisted over 94,850 households since its inception in 1985.

Massachusetts residents and businesses that wish to donate to the Fund are encouraged to use the Good Neighbor Energy Fund green donation envelope included with their monthly energy bill or scan the QR code on the donation envelope to donate online. Some energy companies offer an 'add a dollar' program which allows customers to contribute on their monthly bill payment by one dollar or more. Anyone can also donate with a credit card online at www.magoodneighbor.org.

Donors can also simply mail a check payable to "Good Neighbor Energy Fund," c/o The Salvation Army, 25 Shawmut Road, Canton, Massachusetts 02021-1408. Participating energy companies support their respective customers' generosity through various giving programs.

For more information about how to apply for the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund, visit your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center, call 800-334-3047 if you live in area codes 508, 617, 781 or 978 or 800-262-1320 if you live in area code 413 or visit www.magoodneighbor.org.

Biden-Harris Administration releases state-by-state breakdown of \$1.2B in SAVE plan forgiveness

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Biden-Harris Administration is publishing a state-by-state breakdown of the nearly 153,000 borrowers (2,490 in Massachusetts) who are receiving \$1.2 billion in forgiveness (\$19.5M in Massachusetts) under President Biden's Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan. Servicers started processing this forgiveness today.

"When we talk about fixing a broken student loan system, this is what we're talking about," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "The state-by-state SAVE Plan debt forgiveness numbers we're announcing today not only show that President Biden's leadership is making a real impact on people's lives in every state — they demonstrate that we won't ever stop fighting to make higher education more affordable and accessible for more Americans. This is that commitment in action. This is the real deal."

Borrowers in every single state across the country and territories will have their loans canceled under this action. President Biden has emailed borrowers in all 50 states plus territories on Wednesday notifying them that they were approved for forgiveness and would not need to take any further action to receive relief.

Servicers have begun processing the forgiveness and borrowers will see their loans forgiven on their accounts in the coming weeks. Moving forward, the U.S. Department of Education will continue to identify and

discharge other borrowers enrolled in SAVE who are eligible for this forgiveness on a regular basis.

For a borrower to be eligible for this forgiveness they must be enrolled in the SAVE Plan, have been making at least 10 years of payments, and have originally taken out \$12,000 or less for college.

For every \$1,000 borrowed above \$12,000, a borrower can receive forgiveness after an additional year of payments. All borrowers on SAVE receive forgiveness after 20 or 25 years, depending on whether they have loans for graduate school.

The benefit is based upon the original principal balance of all Federal loans borrowed as a student to attend school, not what a borrower currently owes or the amount of an individual loan.

Borrowers who believe they meet these criteria are strongly encouraged to immediately sign up for SAVE at StudentAid.gov/SAVE.

An Unparalleled Track Record of Student Debt Cancellation

The Biden-Harris Administration has fought tirelessly to provide borrowers the relief they have earned. In total, the Administration has now approved debt cancellation for nearly 3.9 million hard-working Americans totaling almost \$138 billion in relief.

Many of these borrowers planned their lives and families around the promise of forgiveness through programs such as Public Service Loan Forgiveness

(PSLF). The Administration also secured the largest increase to Federal Pell Grants in a decade and finalized new rules to protect borrowers from career programs that leave graduates with unaffordable debts or insufficient earnings.

To date the Biden-Harris Administration has also approved:

\$56.7 billion for more than 793,000 borrowers through fixes to PSLF.

\$45.6 billion for 930,500 borrowers through improvements to income-driven repayment.

\$11.7 billion for 513,000 borrowers with a total and permanent disability. This includes providing automatic discharges off a data match with the Social Security Administration

\$22.5 billion for 1.3 million borrowers through closed school discharges, borrower defense, and related court settlements.

The Biden-Harris Administration is currently writing proposed regulations that would make more borrowers eligible for loan forgiveness and this week will hold another session of negotiated rulemaking to discuss a proposal to provide loan forgiveness for borrowers experiencing hardship.

These efforts are part of President Biden's commitment to finding an alternative path to student debt relief in the wake of last year's Supreme Court decision striking down the Administration's original student debt relief plan.

The Department is also

conducting negotiated rulemaking on regulations that will strengthen institutional quality and program integrity to ensure students are well served by their colleges and that the federal student aid programs work in their best interest.

Additional Borrowers Enrolled in SAVE

There are now 7.5 million borrowers enrolled in the SAVE Plan, of whom 4.3 million have a \$0 payment. The SAVE Plan is the most-affordable repayment plan for low- and middle-income borrowers and puts many on a path to earlier forgiveness.

The SAVE Plan protects borrowers from runaway interest and balances larger than what they originally took out. The improved application allows for a borrower's income to be shared with the Internal Revenue Service so that they do not have to recertify on an annual basis.

The Department will implement the remaining full benefits of the SAVE Plan in July 2024, which will further reduce monthly payments from 10 percent of a borrower's discretionary income to five percent.

Borrowers can learn more about forgiveness programs at StudentAid.gov/forgiveness. Borrowers can learn more about the right repayment plan for their financial situation at StudentAid.gov/restart. More information about the SAVE plan is available at StudentAid.gov/save.

Upcoming local events

February 29, Winter Indoor Community Market, Tewksbury Senior Center, 4 - 7 p.m. Enjoy this indoor version of the outdoor summer community market. Food trucks and many vendors!

February 29, Ask Alex! Town planner's spring office hours 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tewksbury Public Library. Learn about the planning process, how zoning works, and topics such as MBTA communities. Bring your questions!

March 1, TMHS Blood Drive, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS for an appointment.

March 9, Turkey Dinner To Go, Wilmington Methodist Church, featuring roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, squash, gravy and dessert for \$15 per person with curbside pick-up. 5 p.m. Reserve by Wednesday, March 6 at <http://tinyurl.com/3ufry74d>. List number of dinners needed.

March 9, Dr. Sandy Johnson Creamer Foundation Nursing Scholarship Fund-raiser. Elks Hall, Tewksbury. Support a TMHS senior pursuing nursing. \$10 at the door. Food, raffles. 1 - 5 p.m. Drcreamerscholarship@gmail.com.

March 16, Book Donation Drive, Tewksbury Public Library, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please no textbooks, encyclopedias, or dictionaries. Books will be checked for saleable condition on the library honor carts. Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library.

March 16, Tewksbury K of C St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Party to raise

funds for Council 4982 scholarships. Catered corned beef and cabbage dinner, DJ. Tickets \$30. RSVP to Justin Strem at justin.strem@gmail.com or 978-270-0528

March 26, Tewksbury Democratic Committee Candidate Night, Luna Rossa, 6:30 p.m. Residents are welcomed to meet candidates for town offices. Free.

April 5, Music Bingo to benefit WOW and Billerica Cat Care Coalition. Tewksbury K of C Hall, Main Street. Tickets at erasmus-sicbingo.eventbrite.com

Thursdays and Saturdays, Public Health Museum, 365 East St., Open for indoor and campus tours. Check website for times. Publichealthmuseum.org

Book Store Next Door,

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Wilmington Public Library. All proceeds help support library programs. Next to Wilmington Public Library.

Sundays, Lowell Streetcar Museum, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Adults \$3, seniors and youth age 3-12 \$2, children under 3 are free. Cash only. 25 Shattuck St., Lowell.

Wilmington Town Museum, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Harnden Tavern, 430 Salem St. (Route 62), Wilmington

Middlesex Canal Museum, 1 Faulkner St, North Billerica, Saturdays, 12 - 4 p.m. middlesexcanal.org

Book Stew Review

'Neruda on the Park' by Cleyvis Natera

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

This novel of the impact of gentrification, set in the Dominican community of Upper Manhattan, is the family saga of a daughter brought low, and then through, the trauma of her mother's instability.

Luz, a corporate lawyer, is the pride of her close-knit neighborhood and of her mother Eusebia, queen of the local women (the "Tongues") and of her father Vladimir, a weary police detective who is ready for retirement to a home he and Luz have secretly built in the DR as a surprise for Eusebia.

But they all underestimate her passionate love

for Nothar Park and its families, and when she hatches a deceptive and criminal plot to stop the ruin of their enclave, Luz and Vladimir remain ignorant of Eusebia's mental instability due to distractions of their own.

Luz meets and falls in love with Hudson, the son of the primary developer, who turns out to have ideas about creating an impenetrable indoor environment to circumvent the inevitable destruction from global warming.

The lives of the Guerrero family and their neighbors, and their mutual appreciation society, make this a gratifying and warm look at how cohesiveness can overcome hopelessness.

Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

Office located at:
36 Commerce Way #410, Woburn, Ma. 01801
(978) 658-2346

E-Mail: Office@YourTownCrier.com
Publication No. 635-340

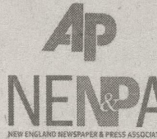
A Publication of the Woburn Daily Times, Inc.
36 Commerce Way #410, Woburn, Ma. 01801, published every Wednesday

Founder: Capt. Larz Neilson
Publisher: Peter M. Haggerty
News Editor: Ryan LaRoche
Advertising: Bruce Hilliard
Sports Editor: Doug Hastings

Subscription prices: Payable in advance.
In Wilmington and Tewksbury: \$90 a year. Elsewhere \$105 a year.

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office@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.

Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.



▲ Exhibits at the Tennis Hall of Fame feature clothing and equipment of champions such as Novak Djokovic and Andre Agassi, and those critical to the success of the sport such as Lamar Hunt and tennis' first sports agent Donald Dell. (Paige Impink photo)

Visit the Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport

By **PAIGE IMPINK**
News Correspondent
paige@yourtowncrier.com

For fans of tennis, a visit to Newport's Tennis Hall of Fame is a great way to learn about the history of the sport and the evolution of the game. Couple that with the bonus extras of Newport and you've got the makings of a nice day out.

The hall of fame is located in the old Newport Casino building on famed Bellevue Avenue. Parking in the off season is free on the street or at most meters, so keep an eye on the weather and plan for a

trip before the tourist season begins.

The museum is open every day 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Plan to spend just under two hours at the museum to work your way through it.

We walked the grounds first and saw the grass tennis courts, indoor tennis dome, and stadium seating for all of the events that are held here. There are several statues and plaques dedicated to tennis greats, both players and supporters of the game.

Once inside the museum, the grand staircase led to the beginning of the exhibits. The first lawn tennis championship was held

in Newport in 1881, thus the location of the hall of fame. The championship eventually moved to New York and became the US Open.

The building was designed not as a casino for gambling, but as a gathering place for the well-heeled of Newport. According to the museum, the name came from the Italian 'la casina,' meaning country or summer house.

The museum has a companion audio tour that can be used to enhance your visit using your smart phone. Following a timeline of the development of the game, the museum's

artifacts are displayed in a combination of vignettes and cases, including pull out drawers with items to discover, and video panels with video clips of various matches and events that shaped the game.

A strong theme throughout the museum is the role of women in the sport, and the rise of Arthur Ashe and Althea Gibson as Black athletes, and advances in wheelchair technology for physically impaired athletes.

From fashion to ball technology to the best material for racquet strings, the museum offers a nice, self-paced experience. High-

lights from the most current stars like Coco Gauff and Carlos Alcaraz are woven in with legends like Ivan Lendl, Bjorn Borg, Jimmy Connors, Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert, and Billie Jean King.

After the museum we worked our way to the Cliff Walk, a 3.5 mile public walkway along the ocean. Some of the walk is closed due to storm damage, but we parked on Narragansett Avenue, took a detour through the Salve Regina college campus, and enjoyed a nice walk. Parking for the Cliff Walk can also be found at Easton's Beach, and in the off

season the parking is free. Be sure to have a map of the walk because the trail transitions from paved to boulders, to dirt. There is no exit from the trail from The Waves to Wetmore Avenue, so plan accordingly.

The paved portion of the walk goes from Easton's to Ochre Point just after the Breakers. There are no restrooms, but if you work your way back to Bellevue before you head home, Stop & Shop is a good option.

Newport is a busy place in the summer, so give it a try in the off season and enjoy the sights without the crowds.



Senate to honor Sue Tucker

BOSTON — This Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at 1 p.m., the Massachusetts State Senate will honor the life

of former State Senator Sue Tucker by considering a formal resolution in her memory during Senate

session.

Senator Barry Finegold (D-Andover), who represents Senator Tucker's for-

mer district, will deliver the resolution and personal remarks at the beginning of Thursday's session.

Friends of Sue Tucker will gather following the

adjournment of session. State Senator Sue Tucker represented Andover, Lawrence, Dracut, and Tewksbury.

State Senator Barry Finegold currently repre-

sents Andover, Amesbury, Haverhill, Merrimac, North Andover, Tewksbury, and Wilmington. He previously represented Andover, Lawrence, Dracut, and Tewksbury.

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\$245

PER MONTH | 18 MONTHS

\$2999 CASH OR TRADE DOWN

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2023 NISSAN ROGUE S AWD

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\$2999 CASH OR TRADE DOWN

2023 Nissan Rogue S AWD Available APR 0.9% for 36 months. Lease for \$254/mo. for 36 months w/\$2,999 cash or trade down. 10000 miles per year. Lease based on selling price of \$26,790. 2023 Nissan Rogue S AWD for \$34,499. \$0 down payment for 36 months. CONDITIONAL OFFER Recent college graduate may be eligible for qualified \$500 Retail Owner Communication may be available if qualified \$500 Stock. W23119. VIN: 3N1B73AE2PC42637. MSRP: \$31,450. Model code: 20113. Lease requires tax, title, 1st payment, acs fee, registration and admin fee additional. Must choose from dealer stock. NMAC credit approval required. 2 or more available at this price. Photos are for illustration purposes only. Sale ends 2-29-2024. Available only at Kelly Nissan of Woburn.

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LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on March 12, 2024 at 7:35 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Site Plan Review #24-03, Stormwater Management Permit #24-03, and Groundwater Protection District Special Permit #24-02, plan entitled, "Site Development Plans for 271 Main Street, Wilmington, MA"; dated January 9, 2024, prepared by Brandon G. Li, P.E., Kelly Engineering Group, 0 Campanelli Drive, Braintree, MA 02184. The application is for the redevelopment of the site to construct a new 25,989 sq. ft. building with associated stormwater utilities, parking, and landscaping. Said property is located at 271 Main Street and shown on Assessor's Map 43 Parcel 4.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
240158 2/21,28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on March 12, 2024 at 7:55 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Sign Special Permit #24-01, plan entitled, "Sign Site Plan"; dated February 7, 2024, prepared by Granite Engineering, 150 Dow Street, Tower 2, Suite 421, Manchester, NH 03101. The application is for the installation of a third wall sign for Locus Robotics, that exceeds the allowed area and is located above the first floor. Said property is located at 100-110 Fordham Road and shown on Assessor's Map 91 Parcel 121.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
240159 2/21,28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on March 12, 2024 at 8:25 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Site Plan Review #24-04 and Stormwater Management Permit #24-04, plan entitled, "Site Plan for RMLD Battery Facility at 99 Fordham Road Wilmington, MA, Assessors Map 99 Lot 135"; dated January 10, 2024, last revised February 14, 2024, prepared by Richard J. O'Connell, P.E., RJO'Connell & Associates, Inc., 80 Montvale Avenue, Suite 201 Stoneham, MA 02180. The application is for the construction and installation of a battery storage facility. Said property is located at 99 Fordham Road and shown on Assessor's Map 99 Parcel 135.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
240160 2/21,28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA 01887, on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in compliance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 131, Section 40, and 310 CMR 10.00 on a Notice of Intent filed by Matthew McGovern, MAG RE Holdings-Wilmington, LLC, 777 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02460, applicant, & Charles Patti, CM Realty Trust, 76 Seton Highlands, Plymouth, MA 02360, owner. This filing is for the full redevelopment of the site for the existing automotive dealership, with associated parking, utilities, and stormwater management system. This work is within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands as designated by the MA Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Sect. 40 and 310 CMR 10.00. The property is located at 271 Main Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, and shown on Assessor's Map 43 Parcel 4. A copy of the application is on file at the Department of Planning and Conservation, Room 6, Wilmington Town Hall, and may be inspected between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Donald Pearson, Chair
Conservation Commission
240193 2/28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA 01887, on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 7:10 p.m. in compliance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 131, Section 40, and 310 CMR 10.00 on a Notice of Intent filed by Christopher Neelon, Ballardvale Owner, LLC, 800 Hingham Street, Suite 31, Rockland, MA 02370, applicant & owner. This filing is for the construction of a new 66,100 square foot office/research & development building, stormwater management enhancements, extension of new utility services, and various site development features. This work is within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands as designated by the MA Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Sect. 40 and 310 CMR 10.00. The property is located at 181 & 187 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, and shown on Assessor's Map R2 Parcels 20A & 20G. A copy of the application is on file at the Department of Planning and Conservation, Room 6, Wilmington Town Hall, and may be inspected between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Donald Pearson, Chair
Conservation Commission
240194 2/28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PROPERTY REVIEW BOARD

The Wilmington Property Review Board will hold a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning Board and Finance Committee on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for the purpose of receiving comments as to the best use of specific parcels of Town-owned land, which are being petitioned for disposition at the Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2024.

Petitioned article:

Map 40 Parcels 129 & 130 - Molloy Road

The map identifying this parcel may be inspected at the Wilmington Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Department of Planning & Conservation, Room 6, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Written comments will be accepted until March 19, 2024 and should be directed to Valerie Gingrich, Director of Planning & Conservation, at the above address.

Valerie Gingrich
Director of
Planning & Conservation
240196 2/28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for furnishing the following item will be received at the Office of the Town Manager, Wilmington Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887, until **Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 11:30am** where and when they will be publicly opened and read:

Woburn Street Water Main
Replacement

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained at the Town of Wilmington Purchasing Department website: <https://www.wilmingtonma.gov/purchasing-department>

All bids for this project are subject to applicable public bidding laws of Massachusetts, including, but not limited to G.L. c.30, §39M.

File original bid with the Town Manager, Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887.

Mark each envelope: **"Woburn Street Water Main Replacement - Bid Opening April 3, 2024 at 11:30am"**

Each Bid must be accompanied by a bid security consisting of a BID BOND, CASH, or, CERTIFIED CHECK issued by a responsible bank or trust company in the amount of 5% of the bid price.

A performance bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total amount of the contract price with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, as well as a labor and materials bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total contract price.

Attention is directed to the minimum wage rates to be paid as determined by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the weekly payroll record submission requirements under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 through 27D inclusive.

Selection of the contractor will be based upon bidder qualifications, including evidence of past performance in similar projects, and bid price. The contract will be awarded to the bidder deemed by the awarding authority to be the lowest responsible and eligible bidder.

Purchases by the Town of Wilmington are exempt from any Federal, State, Municipal and/or excise tax.

The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the bids.

The Town of Wilmington reserves the right to waive any formality and/or to reject any or all bids or any parts thereof deemed not to be in the best interest of the Town of Wilmington.

Louis Cimaglia
Temporary Town Manager
240187 2/28/24



LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON PLANNING BOARD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium at 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA on the Zoning Articles proposed for inclusion on the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting to be held May 4, 2024. The Public Hearing will be conducted jointly with the Finance Committee.

The following summarizes the Zoning Articles that will be considered at the Public Hearing:

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by voting to rezone General Business (GB) to General Industrial (GI) the parcel of land shown on Assessor's Map 39 Parcel 11, or to take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by voting to rezone from Residence 60 (R60) to Residence 20 (R20) the parcel of land shown on Assessor's Map 11 Parcel 6, or to take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by creating a new Section 6.12 for the MBTA Communities Multi-family Overlay District (MOD) with four Sub-districts (Main Street Mixed Use Sub-district, Burlington Avenue Sub-district, Deming Way Sub-district, and West Street Sub-district), amend Section 6.5 Site Plan Review, and amend Section 6.11 Inclusionary Housing, or take any other action related thereto.

The Zoning Articles and maps may be inspected by contacting the Department of Planning & Conservation at 978-658-8238 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Articles may also be found on the Town website.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
240197 2/28, 3/6/24



▲ Coach Bendel gets ready to throw a jump ball during a basketball clinic scrimmage. (Courtesy photo)

Shawsheen Tech announces lineup for
2024 'Summer at Shawsheen program'

BILLERICA — Shawsheen Valley Technical High School is thrilled to announce registration is now open for the highly anticipated 2024 "Summer at Shawsheen" program. Tailored for youth ages 7-18, the program features over twenty diverse options at affordable rates, spanning different durations throughout a dynamic four-week period.

Designed to provide access for local youth to experience Shawsheen while engaging in enriching and budget-friendly summer activities, the "Summer at Shawsheen" program always experiences rapid enrollment. Classes and clinics are led by Shawsheen's distinguished teachers, coaches, and

industry professionals, covering a spectrum of offerings such as sports clinics, vocational-technical programs, academic classes, and enrichment courses.

This year's lineup introduces exciting new additions such as Adobe Illustrator for Beginners and Beginner Crochet, along with an extended week for the ever-popular Baseball Clinic. Additionally, an extra week of the full-day "Summer Explore" course has been added, enabling more students to discover a diverse range of vocational-technical areas.

Returning favorites this summer include Adventure Club, Everything Automotive, Cupcake & Coo-

kie Design, the Summer Drama Program, and the perpetually sought-after College Application/Essay Prep course. Sports enthusiasts will be thrilled with boys basketball, girls basketball, cheering, and volleyball clinics.

Having achieved a record-breaking attendance of 572 students last year, this year's programs are expected to fill fast; it is highly recommended to register early.

To secure your child's spot for an unforgettable summer experience, visit www.shawsheentech.org/summer2024 or contact Summer at Shawsheen's Program Coordinator, Kevin Bloom, at summer@shawstech.org.

Don't let your child miss the chance to explore, learn, and have a blast at Shawsheen Valley Technical High School's "Summer at Shawsheen" program. We look forward to a summer filled with growth, fun, and new friendships!

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA 01887, on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 7:20 p.m. in compliance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 131, Section 40, and 310 CMR 10.00 on a Notice of Intent filed by Scot MacKenzie, 10 Pond Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, applicant & owner. This filing is for after-the-fact approval of an outdoor patio, kitchen, shower, fire pit, dock, stone block wall along the shoreline, raft on Silver Lake, and the removal of a concrete patio to install paver stepping stones to the dock. This work is within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands as designated by the MA Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Sect. 40 and 310 CMR 10.00. The property is located at 10 Pond Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, and shown on Assessor's Map 34 Parcel 146. A copy of the application is on file at the Department of Planning and Conservation, Room 6, Wilmington Town Hall, and may be inspected between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Donald Pearson, Chair
Conservation Commission
240195 2/28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to Matthew Trinke of 32 Bradford St. Apt 16 Concord, Ma. Who is the last registered owner of a 2018 Volkswagen Jetta Vin number 3VWB67AJ9M215685 that your vehicle will be sold at auction on or about 3-8-2024 at Fred F Cain Inc. 10 Ranch Rd. Wilmington, Ma. The vehicle will be auctioned to recover towing and storage charges that are past due.

240162 2/21,28, 3/6/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
SELECT BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held before the Select Board in the Wilmington Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Room 9, Wilmington, MA at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2024 on the application of Devin P. Howe, PE, on behalf of Ask Group, LLC to Remove Earth Products on land situated at 250 Andover Street, Wilmington, MA, and further described as Lot 302, on Assessors' Map R1 and shown on a plan on file with the application for said permit.

Gary B. DePalma
Select Board
240163 2/21,28/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF APPEALS

A public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Room 9 on Wednesday, MARCH 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. on the following applications:

CASE 2-24
APPLICANT: DEREK SANTINI
OF 28 KENWOOD AVE

REQUEST: ASKING FOR SPECIAL PERMIT UNDER GROUNDWATER PROTECTION DISTRICT 6.6.7.7 FOR AN ADDITION OF POOL HOUSE/STORAGE SHED COMBINED STRUCTURE.

CASE # 3-24
APPLICANT:
WCV-800 SALEM LLC
ADDRESS:
800 SALEM STREET

SPECIAL PERMIT: 5.2.8.1
HEIGHT EXTENSION FOR BUILDING

240165 2/28, 3/6/24

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI24P0766EA

Estate of: Marie T. Murphy
Date of Death: 11/18/2023

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Timothy S. Murphy of Charlotte NC requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Timothy S. Murphy of Charlotte NC be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/15/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 16, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
240185 2/28/24

UMass Lowell and NMCOG partner for digital equity

LOWELL — The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), awarded over \$4.3 million in grants to advance digital equity in Greater Lowell and the wider Merrimack Valley. Digital Equity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.

The initiative funded by these grants seeks to directly address these inequities in three key areas: infrastructure for reliable internet connections, device access and use, and education and digital literacy.

The University of Massachusetts Lowell (UMass Lowell) received \$4 million as part of the Digital Partnerships Program to provide a range of services in the Merrimack Valley, including training in computer and internet usage, device refurbishment and distribution, and neighborhood-scale broadband connectivity targeted toward affordable housing.

In addition, a coalition of nine municipalities led by the City of Lowell received technical assistance funding valued at over \$300,000 to develop the Greater Lowell Digital Equity Plan. This assistance will be provided by the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). It will build upon UMass Lowell's work, identifying areas where that work could be expanded, as well as policy changes and initiatives that municipalities could undertake to reduce the digital divide.

"The COVID-19 pandemic exposed critical gaps in high-speed access and digital literacy throughout our region, especially for people who make lower incomes and older adults," said Jennifer Raitt, NMCOG Executive Director. "Our work and partnership with UMass Lowell will ensure we take the right steps to connect our communities to high-speed internet to allow full personal, civic, and economic participation safely and securely."

The Greater Lowell Digital Equity Plan will be designed, facilitated, and developed by staff at NMCOG and MAPC through months of research and outreach. Public engagement will consist of a region-wide survey, municipal interviews, and focus groups.

MAPC is providing technical expertise and quantitative data analysis drawing from prior experience supporting digital equity planning in other communities, including in the cities of Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Somerville, and Quincy. This project is expected to be completed by early next year, after which the team will assist each municipality in pursuing strategies developed by the plan, including pursuing "implementation funds" that MBI hopes to make available to communities who have engaged in digital equity planning work.

Visit nmcog.org/digitalequity to learn more about the Greater Lowell Digital Equity Plan; sign up for the digital equity mailing list to learn about future engagement opportunities. For more information regarding the Digital Equity Plan, contact Isabel Emmet, Regional Land Use Planner II, at iemmet@nmcog.org or 978-454-8021 x117.

About NMCOG

NMCOG is one of 13 regional planning agencies within Massachusetts. Formed under Chapter 40B of the Massachusetts General Laws, NMCOG serves the municipalities of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford to support and enhance a wide range of planning objectives related to land use, environmental protection, energy, economic development, housing, municipal service delivery, and transportation.

NMCOG's professional staff assist member communities in designing, facilitating, and implementing programs and planning initiatives which further the interests of the overall region.

2024 Wilmington Rotary Club's Polar Plunge

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Rotary Club is sponsoring their second annual Polar Plunge fundraiser at Silver Lake on Saturday, March 23 at noon on the sunny shores of the town beach. All proceeds from this event will be donated to "Polio Plus" and the Rotary Foundation's continuing effort to eradicate the disease of polio from the world.

Polio, or poliomyelitis, is a paralyzing and potentially deadly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of 5. The virus spreads from person to person, typically through contaminated water. It can then attack the nervous system.

Although there is no cure, there is a safe and effective vaccine — one which Rotary and our partners use to immunize over 2.5 billion children worldwide.

Cases of Polio have been reduced by 99.9% worldwide since 1988, and only two countries remain endemic to the spread of the virus, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Help us to eradicate this debilitating disease once and for all.

Come and join us on March 23, at noon and "Make the Plunge" with members of the Wilmington Rotary Club and the Wilmington High School Rotary Interact Club, or... consider a "Go Fund Me" Donation in any amount to "2024 WHS Rotary Interact Polar Plunge." All Plungers are then invited back to Tremezzo Restaurant for Pizza!

All funds raised will be donated to Polio Plus. Thank you for your support!

Monte-Forte Law renews commitment to local student-athletes

WILMINGTON — Monteforte Law P.C., is thrilled to announce the continuation of "The Albert Iamelli Sportsmanship Award and Scholarship" for the hardworking seniors of Wilmington High School.

Echoing the values of dedication, teamwork, and excellence, this scholarship is not just about financial aid; it's a tribute to the enduring spirit of Albert Iamelli, a man whose love for the game and impeccable integrity left an indelible mark on high school sports across New England.

As a revered football referee and baseball umpire, Albert wasn't just present at the games; he was a part of the very heart and soul of sportsmanship in the community.

Eligibility criteria:

- A current senior at Wilmington High School.
- Must be a member of a sports team.
- Must have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Michael Monteforte Jr. fondly recalled, "My grandfather, Albert Iamelli, was a titan in the world of high school sports. His legacy of fairness, respect and sportsmanship is something I've always aspired to honor. What better way to do that than supporting the next generation of student-athletes?"

Scholarship details:

Monteforte Law P.C. is proudly funding four scholarships, each worth \$500, to student-athletes who not only excel in their sport but also embody the virtues of sportsmanship and academic dedication.

How to apply:

Send an email to Scholarship@montefortelaw.com to request an application. Fill it out, pour your heart into the essay question, and submit it by the deadline on April 10, 2024. The winners, chosen by the all-star team at Monteforte Law P.C., will be announced with much fanfare on April 28, 2024.

"We're not just looking for athletes; we're looking for leaders, both on the field and off," added Monteforte. "This scholarship is a testament to my grandfather's legacy and our firm's commitment to supporting the youth of Wilmington."

For more details, visit MonteforteLaw.com.

About Monteforte Law, P.C.

Monteforte Law P.C., has locations in Woburn and Norwell. The firm specializes in Estate Planning and Elder Law. Atty. Monteforte is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and is the author of the books "Planning Ahead: Everything You Need to Know About Estate Planning & Elder Law," "The Long Game: The Top 10 Reasons Your Massachusetts Long-Term Care Application Will Be REJECTED" and "Your Business Your Money: The Ultimate Estate Planning Guide for Successful Business Owners."

Michael is licensed to practice law in MA, NH and NY.

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website. To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:

www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE			
TOWN OF TEWKSBURY OFFICE OF THE TREASURER			
978-640-4340			
Notice of Names of Persons Appearing to be Owners of Checks Issued by The Town of Tewksbury Which Have Not Been Cashied and are Deemed Abandoned as of JANUARY 2024.			
CHECK NO.	AMOUNT	DATE ISSUED	NAME
26387	\$ 450.00	8/30/18	EMPIRACAL RESOLUTION INC
267065	\$ 57.68	12/13/18	COLIN TRELEGAN
298865	\$ 439.86	6/17/21	COLIN TRELEGAN
273705	\$ 165.35	6/13/19	ALFRED DONOVAN
289658	\$ 278.15	8/27/20	MICHAEL MCCLAUGHLIN
289897	\$ 659.52	9/3/20	EMILY KILLEEN
289951	\$ 2,475.00	9/3/20	TIME, LLC
291836	\$ 1,485.04	11/5/20	DEAN BARBERA LAW
292053	\$ 150.23	11/12/20	JAMES RAUSCH
292137	\$ 132.00	11/12/20	ISTORAGE TEWKSBURY
292814	\$ 1,332.10	12/10/20	MICHAEL MICHAUD
292818	\$ 400.00	12/10/20	MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
292889	\$ 449.00	12/10/20	JAIME LANE
302575	\$ 354.00	9/30/21	JAIME LANE
294458	\$ 124.06	2/4/21	MICHAEL BOUDREAU
296294	\$ 80.00	4/1/21	GERMANO GATEWAY CARWASH
311504	\$ 300.00	6/30/22	GERMANO GATEWAY CARWASH
312022	\$ 280.00	7/28/22	GERMANO GATEWAY CARWASH
315479	\$ 487.00	11/10/22	GERMANO GATEWAY CARWASH
29879	\$ 134.76	6/3/21	OLIVIA BENTO
299980	\$ 583.63	7/15/21	CLAIRE & DAVID CRONIN SR
300640	\$ 4,534.80	8/5/21	KINDLE BEHAVIOR CONSULTANTS
301598	\$ 300.23	9/1/21	SPRINT SOLUTIONS
301601	\$ 261.60	9/1/21	T MOBILE USA INC
303932	\$ 459.00	11/10/21	RENEE LANGLAIS
33257	\$ 101.85	12/9/21	RYAN THOMAS BAIN
33256	\$ 119.53	12/9/21	JOHN JOSEPH DEVEAN
305406	\$ 431.21	12/9/21	SEAN WILSON
308517	\$ 565.00	12/23/21	EF EXPLORE AMERICA INC
308845	\$ 800.00	3/31/22	NEW ENGLAND INTERSTATE WATER POLLUTION
30937	\$ 292.90	4/14/22	NRG BUSINESS MARKETING
310472	\$ 125.00	4/21/22	EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL
310489	\$ 145.91	6/9/22	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK
310517	\$ 234.90	6/9/22	LANA POIRIER
311235	\$ 354.00	6/23/22	JENNIFER PRICE
311349	\$ 113.03	6/30/22	SALAMNADER STUDIOS CHICAGO INC
312343	\$ 126.90	8/4/22	BILLERICA VETERINARY HOSPITAL
313417	\$ 112.89	9/8/22	MIGUEL ANARDIS ORTIZ-SEPULVEDA
313904	\$ 457.60	9/22/22	HARE KRISHNA NASHUA LLC
307137	\$ 173.86	2/17/22	SHIV TEWKSBURY INVESTMENT LLC
64285	\$ 600.00	2/23/23	NGM INSURANCE COMPANY
240161 2/21,28/24			

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **March 6, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.** within the **Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street**, for a NOI application filed by Norse Environmental Services, Inc on behalf of John Mangano for activities related to the razing and reconstruction of a single-family home, in addition to demolishing a detached garage, within the buffer zone of wetlands.

The property subject to this application is located at **129 MARSHALL ST TEWKSBURY, MA, Assessor's Map 33-10.**

The application may be examined on the Conservation Commission webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Joe Fontaine
Conservation Agent/Planner
240189 2/28/24

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
TREE WARDEN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), Chapter 87, Public Shade Tree Law, Section 3 (Cutting of Public Shade Trees; Hearing; Damages), the Town of Tewksbury Tree Warden will hold a Public Hearing regarding the removal of a public shade tree on **Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Tewksbury DPW, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, MA. Any person interested or wishing to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated or **submit a written objection** with your name and address prior to the date and time listed.

The proposed removal is a resident request to remove a tree.

The location of the town tree affected is (1) Pine at 59 Compass Lane.

For further information regarding location, size and species of the affected trees, is available weekdays at the Department of Public Works, Town Hall and Library during normal business hours; and on the Town's website www.tewksbury-ma.gov.

Kevin Hardiman, P.E.
Director of Public Works
240141 2/21,28/24

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY,
MASSACHUSETTS
FACILITIES AND GROUNDS

INVITATION TO BID

MOWING AND TRIMMING
LAWN AREAS

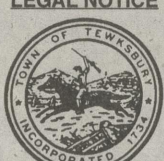
The Town of Tewksbury acting through its Town Manager will receive bids for Mowing & Trimming Lawn Areas until 11:00AM on Friday March 15th, 2024. Sealed bids on bid forms provided within the bid documents and specifications shall be mailed or delivered to the Office of the Town Manager, Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Richard C. Proctor for Site Plan Review pursuant to Section 3.6 and Special Permit pursuant to Section 3.5 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw as well as a Land Disturbance Permit pursuant to Chapter 19 of the General Bylaw to construct a 3,456 SF multi-family building with associated parking, drainage, landscaping and utilities as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at 20 Glenwood Road, 2551 Main Street, Assessor's Map 94, Lots 365, 177 114, zoned South Village Business.

The application may be examined on the Planning Board webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Stephen Johnson, Chairman
240130 2/21,28/24

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

INVITATION TO BID

LA Field
Lighting Installation Project

The Town of Tewksbury acting through its Town Manager will receive bids for the installation of lighting poles, fixtures, footings and LED lamps supplied by Musco Lighting and any associated electrical wiring and conduits at LA Baseball Field on the corner of Livingston Street and East Street. Sealed bids on bid forms provided within the bid documents and specifications shall be mailed or delivered to the Office of the Town Manager, Town Hall 1009 Main Street Tewksbury, MA 01876 with the designation "LA Field Lighting Installation Project" on the envelope. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the First Floor Meeting Room at 1009 Main Street Tewksbury, MA on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 10:00AM.

Information and Instructions to Bidders, Contract and Specifications can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Town Manager, Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, 978-640-4300 on or after Thursday February 22nd, 2024. All bids are subject to MGL Chapter 30B.

For information pertaining to this bid, please contact Vincent R. Bomal, Facilities and Grounds Manager at 978-640-4300 or email Amy Ryan at aryan@tewksbury-ma.gov.

The Bidding and Award of this Contract will be pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30B. The Owner reserves the right, in its absolute and sole discretion, to waive any informality in or to reject any or all Bids if deemed to be in its best interest of the Town.

240146 2/21,28/24

INVITATION TO BID

LA Field
Lighting Installation Project

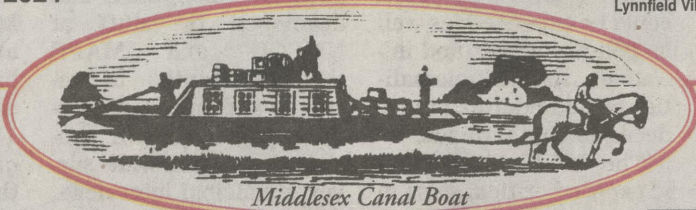
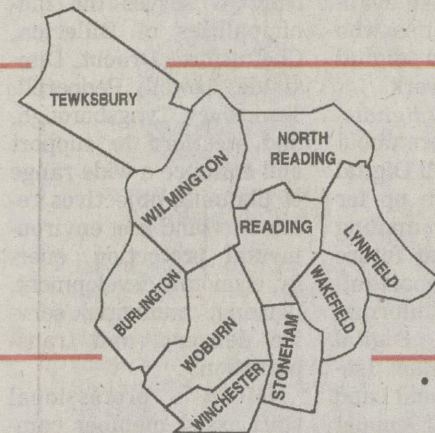
The Town of Tewksbury acting through its Town Manager will receive bids for the installation of lighting poles, fixtures, footings and LED lamps supplied by Musco Lighting and any associated electrical wiring and conduits at LA Baseball Field on the corner of Livingston Street and East Street. Sealed bids on bid forms provided within the bid documents and specifications shall be mailed or delivered to the Office of the Town Manager, Town Hall 1009 Main Street Tewksbury, MA 01876 with the designation "LA Field Lighting Installation Project" on the envelope. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the First Floor Meeting Room at 1009 Main Street Tewksbury, MA on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 10:00AM.

Information and Instructions to Bidders, Contract and Specifications can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Town Manager, Town Hall, 1009 Main Street Tewksbury, MA 01876, (978) 640-4300 on or after Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 10:00AM. All bids are subject to MGL Chapter 30B.

For information pertaining to this bid, please contact Vincent Bomal, Facilities and Grounds Manager, at 978-640-4300 or email Amy Ryan at aryan@tewksbury-ma.gov.

The Town of Tewksbury reserves the right to reject any and all bids if it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so.

240147 2/21,28/24



Middlesex East

A weekly regional section reaching 10 communities

• LYNNFIELD • NORTH READING • READING • WAKEFIELD • WOBURN • STONEHAM •
 • WINCHESTER • BURLINGTON • WILMINGTON • TEWKSBURY •

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 middlesexeast@comcast.net

Pedestrian safety improvements, new bike lanes proposed...

Reading unveils ambitious Walkers Brook Drive redesign options

By PATRICK BLAIS

Town planners in Reading envision a future where pedestrians, joggers, cyclists, and commuters alike will all flock to the community's eastern gateway to get to I-95, dine and shop at area businesses, and recreate by the shores of Wakefield's Lake Quannapowitt.

To that end, Reading Economic Developer Ben Cares, joined with a team of civil engineers and transportation project consultants, earlier this month unveiled ambitious plans to transform the Walkers Brook Drive corridor that extends from Reading Center to the Wakefield line by adding dedicated bicycle lanes, new pedestrian walkways, and a series of traffic calming and safety measures.

The idea is that eventually, those multi-modal amenities will provide all types of users with a safe and visually appealing way to access not only the traffic corridor's various retail outlets and restaurants, but also the recreational haven the exists around Lake Quannapowitt.

But with Walkers Brook Drive and connecting roadways like North Avenue controlled by no fewer than three local and state jurisdictions, Reading is being urged to take the lead on making that long-term vision a reality.

"By and large, we're focusing on the intersection you hit [to get in and out] of Market Basket all the way to the limits of the Town of Reading just before the I-95 overpass. But it's meant to be complimentary," explained Cares of the proposed redesign plans.

"We can bring the community to the table and tell the state, 'This is what we'd like to see on our side. Let's work together on how to fix the middle part and also connect to Wakefield,'" project consultant Wing Wong later told town residents and business owners who gathered at the Reading Public Library forum.

Walkers Brook Drive
 Featuring a car dealership and a handful of medical and office space properties, Walkers Brook Drive also includes shopping plazas anchored by Market Basket, a Stop & Shop, a Jordan's Furniture with an Imax Theatre and Home Depot store, and a number of restaurants.

The four-lane road off of Washington and John Streets, which according to a previous traffic study handles around 23,340 vehicles per day, is a major commuter thoroughfare that connects to both the north and southbound sides of I-95 by the Wakefield line. It is also one of Reading's only major economic hubs outside of Route 28 and Reading Center and as such, is a major source of commercial tax revenue.

Back in 2018, Reading officials first began exploring the future of the corridor

• READING TO A12

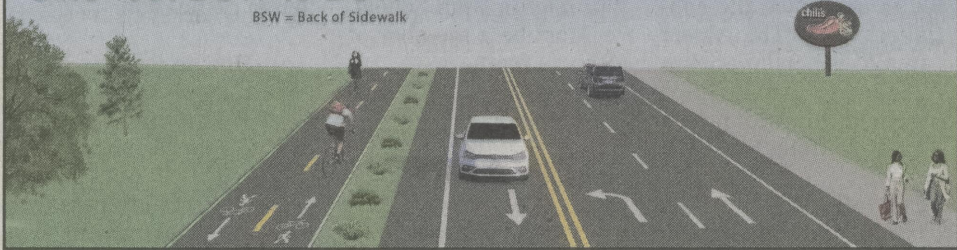
PROPOSED (ALTERNATIVE 1)

75 feet of right-of-way
 61 feet BSW to BSW



PROPOSED (ALTERNATIVE 2)

75 feet of right-of-way
 64.5 feet BSW to BSW



PROPOSED (ALTERNATIVE 3)

Need a total of 79 feet of right-of-way
 68 feet BSW to BSW



TRAFFIC FLOW ALTERNATIVES - The above graphics show proposed alternatives to the traffic flow on Walkers Brook Drive. The redesign should improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians along the heavily trafficked corridor.
 (Courtesy Graphics)

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Movie Reviews & Box Office News

Hillary Swank at heart of inspirational 'Ordinary Angels'



TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL - Hilary Swank almost singlehandedly raises the material in this film to a level that keeps you wanting to watch. And sometimes, for a good cry at the movies, that's really all you need.

(Photo: Lionsgate Films)

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

At the end of "Ordinary Angels," we're given one of those now-see-how-it-really-happened moments with real footage mirroring the climax of the film. That's a really good thing.

Because otherwise, one might be tempted to think the filmmakers had dreamed up a story too sappy and inspirational to be true. But no, this tale of how one determined woman rallied her community to help save a dying young girl took place largely as it's presented.

Despite the compelling source material, "Ordinary Angels" is one of those movies where you can predict developments with certainty. You know in your bones when the phone's about to ring with a fateful call. You know when a character is finally going to lose patience, telegraphing the obligatory Moment of Conflict. And you know when an alcoholic is going to relapse, even before the shot of the beers in the fridge.

Such predictability can be fatal for a film, but "Ordinary Angels," directed by Jon Gunn, has something crucial going for it — Hilary Swank. Not for nothing, we soon recall, has Swank won two Oscars. With her innate groundedness — even in big hair, fringed jacket, sparkly dress and pink heels — she can lend truth to most any scenario. She gives what could have been merely a pass-the-Kleenex weepie its heart, yes, but more importantly its heft.

First, though, we meet Ed, a Kentucky roofer (Alan Ritchson, solid and appealing). In flashback, Ed welcomes his second daughter at the hospital with his wife, and the loving couple name her Michelle. Flash forward five years, though, and Ed's wife is dying of a congenital disease. A devastated Ed promises to take care of the girls.

Now we meet Sharon (Swank), a single hairdresser with an estranged son. She's also what they call hard-living, which means we meet her at — where else? — a bar, where she dances on the counter and does shots and falls down and ends up a mascara-stained mess. Her wise friend Rose — there's always a wise friend — forces her to an AA meeting, but Sharon still won't call herself an alcoholic.

But she does hear some good advice at the meeting, where a man describes learning to "find a reason to be here that's bigger than you are."

Like clockwork, Sharon sees an article in the local paper about a 5-year-old girl — Ed's daughter Michelle — whose mother has just died and who now needs a liver transplant. Sharon shows up at the funeral unannounced, then tells Rose back at the salon that she thinks her destiny is to find the money for the transplant.

But meanwhile, there are huge hospital bills, and Ed can't afford them. Without asking, Sharon holds a fundraiser and shows up at the house with several thousand dollars in cash. Ed is, understandably, perplexed at this woman who is soon eating dinner with the family. But his mother, Barbara, welcomes Sharon with open arms. "Mom, she's a mess," Ed says. "Perfect, she'll fit right in here," Barbara replies.

Certainly they need money. For one hospital stay, Ed, who has no health insurance, is charged more than \$6,000 (the scene is an advertisement for socialized medicine). Soon Sharon is sitting down with Ed and going through all his bills, making piles of "urgent" and "very urgent." ("Daddy's in over his head," says older daughter Ashley.) Sharon also helps Ed market his roofing skills.

But Sharon is struggling in her own life. Her estranged son, embittered by her alcoholism during his childhood, rejects her efforts to reconcile. Sharon's words to him, even uttered by the always-authentic Swank, are trite: "I know I let you down," she says. "Being a single mom ain't easy." The by-the-numbers script also leaves us wondering when, a full hour into the movie, Ed asks Sharon about her past: "Married? Kids?" You'd think that would have come up many moons ago, but OK.

Things go back and forth between Ed and Sharon, who may be an angel but lacks boundaries. She pretends to be his sister to call and find out what he owes the hospital. But later, she convinces a group of hospital executives to erase hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt. Ed is moved to tears, but then Sharon goes too far, angering him when she calls a news crew to the home without permission.

Sharon suffers a predictable relapse with alcohol, but then the stakes are raised dramatically for the denouement of the story. A new liver for Michelle is in reach, but the family needs a private plane to get there — during the famous Kentucky Blizzard of 1994, the worst in state history. Sharon needs more miracles and the whole town needs to help.

Again, this would all seem made up if it didn't actually happen. We won't spoil the ending, but this is an inspirational tale, so you can count on being inspired. Luckily Swank is on hand, almost singlehandedly raising the material to a level that keeps you wanting to watch. And sometimes, for a good cry at the movies, that's really all you need.

"Ordinary Angels," a Lionsgate release, has been rated PG by the Motion Picture Association of America "for thematic content, brief bloody images and smoking." Running time: 116 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

HomeNewsHere RECIPE



SALAD DAYS - This fresh and flavorful salad gets its crunch from toasted Fiber One® cereal.

STEPS

1. In 10-inch skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Meanwhile, place cereal in food processor. Cover; process until mixture forms a coarse meal. Add cereal, salt and pepper to skillet. Cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add walnuts to skillet. Cook and stir 3 to 4 minutes longer or until cereal is dark brown and walnuts are toasted slightly. Transfer to paper towels to cool.

2. In large bowl, mix lettuce, arugula, grapefruit sections, feta cheese and pomegranate seeds. In small bowl, mix poppy seed dressing, olive oil, vinegar and sugar. Stir until well combined. Drizzle dressing mixture over

salad; toss to coat. Top with cereal mixture just before serving.

EXPERT TIPS

Top with cereal mixture just before serving to keep the cereal crisp.

NUTRITION

310 Calories
25g Total Fat
5g Protein
16g Total Carbohydrate
9g Sugars

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup Fiber One™ original cereal
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts
- 4 cups chopped romaine lettuce
- 4 cups arugula
- 1 cup peeled grapefruit sections
- 4 oz crumbled feta cheese
- 1/2 cup pomegranate seeds
- 1/4 cup poppy seed dressing
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon sugar

Calling All Food Enthusiasts:

Share your recipes and celebrate 15 years with Wakefield Farmers Market

Dear Wakefield Farmers Market Community,

Fifteen years of supporting local farms and small batch specialty food producers — what an incredible milestone! As we reflect on our journey, we can't help but be overwhelmed with gratitude for the unwavering support from our beloved community.

To commemorate this special occasion, we're excited to announce a project that celebrates the heart and soul of our market: Harvesting Community Flavor — a community cookbook curated by you, our amazing supporters!

We believe that the best recipes are not just about food; they're about the memories, the stories, and the connections they evoke. Whether it's a cherished family heirloom passed down through generations or a newfound favorite discovered at the market, every recipe has a tale to tell.

That's why we're reaching out to YOU, our vibrant market community, to contribute your favorite recipes to our cookbook. Whether it's a delicious dish made with fresh, seasonal produce from our local farmers or a delightful creation using artisanal products from our small batch producers, we want to feature the diverse flavors and culinary creativity of Wakefield and its surrounding communities.

How You Can Get Involved:

Share Your Recipes: Visit our cookbook project page here to submit your recipes. Whether it's appetizers, main courses, desserts, or beverages, we welcome all kinds of culinary delights. Don't forget to include a brief description or story behind your recipe to add that personal touch!

Spread the Word: Help us spread the word by sharing this post with your friends, family, and fellow food enthusiasts.

asts. The more recipes we gather, the richer and more diverse our cookbook will be!

Stay Tuned: Keep an eye out for updates as we compile and curate the recipes for our cookbook. We'll be sharing sneak peeks, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and more exciting news along the way.

Why Participate?

Celebrate Community: Our market is more than just a place to buy groceries — it's a vibrant community hub where friendships are forged, stories are shared, and memories are made. By contributing to our cookbook, you're celebrating the spirit of community that makes Wakefield Farmers Market so special.

Support Local: By featuring recipes made with locally sourced ingredients, we're highlighting the importance of supporting our local farmers and producers. Every recipe in our cookbook is a testament to the rich bounty of our region and the hard work of those who cultivate it.

Preserve Tradition: Many of us have cherished family recipes that have been passed down through the generations. By sharing these recipes, we're preserving our culinary heritage and ensuring that these traditions continue for years to come.

Thank you for being a part of our journey over the past 15 years. We can't wait to see the incredible recipes that you'll share with us and to create a cookbook that truly captures the essence of our community.

Happy cooking!

Warm regards,

AnnMarie Gallivan
Market Manager
Wakefield Farmers Market

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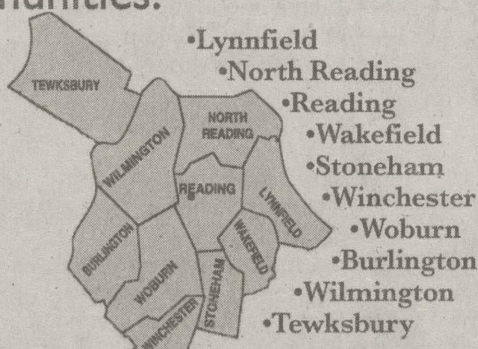
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Tewksbury Police Log

Billerica party arrested for OUI, drug possession

Monday, February 19

3:03 a.m. - Police out with a motor vehicle for suspicious activity at Circle K. They stated they were looking for somewhere to eat.

9:24 a.m. - Caller reported property damage at Tidal Wave Car Wash. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

12:55 p.m. - Caller who was not home reported four or five teenagers walking through her yard at East Street. There was no signage stating no trespassing. The boys wore navy blue or black jackets, last seen walking on East Street toward Dunkin' from her house. Video was from 10 to 15 minutes prior to calling. Female notified to call when she was home and put out no trespassing signs.

8:42 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a Black or Hispanic male wearing winter hat and coat, tapping on door at Cooney Road. White/silver sedan also outside. Left the residence and took a right toward Lowell. Police spoke with the reported party. It was the neighbor knocking at his door.

Tuesday, February 20

9:13 a.m. - The property manager at Lodge at Ames Pond reported vandalism to the club house. Police sent and officer spoke to the party.

11:30 a.m. - Caller found a pill near his shed in which the suspect from apprehended at Chandler Street. Police sent. They advised the item was secured, adding to his original file.

6:23 p.m. - Caller reported a bald white male wearing a winter jacket that appeared to be an old mailman's jackty with red and white stripes at Cumberland Farms. Male walking back and forth and was told to leave several times. Male started throwing signs and last seen heading toward the tracks. Police sent. Officer filed a report. Male party was issued a no trespassing order.

10:29 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a black Honda CRV driving erratically at Merrimack Meadows Lane with no lights, not being able to get a license plate. Vehicle was speeding around the loops. Police sent. She spoke with the reporting party who stated vehicle left prior to their arrival. Nothing was shown.

ing.

Wednesday, February 21

1:47 a.m. - Police out at Whipple Road with single car motor vehicle accident at Whipple Road and Pond Street. Edmilson De Souza, 31, of 532 Boston Road in Billerica, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor, assault and battery with dangerous weapon with a car door, assault and battery on police officer, possess class B drugs, and negligent operation of motor vehicle.

7:44 p.m. - A 911 caller reported unknown male party, heavy set and in his 50s, knocking on doors asking for directions at Whipple Road. He was taking pictures of houses. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

8:24 p.m. - A 911 caller reported black sedan with lights off parked on the lawn for five minutes at Northgate Road. While on call, caller stated vehicle left residence and went toward North Street. Police sent and spoke to caller. Vehicle was parked at the end of the driveway not on the lawn.

Thursday, February 22

2:02 a.m. - Caller, customer at Burger King was reported that right by the drive through what she believed was homeless person was asking for food and swearing at people, flipping people off. He was recording other customers with his cell phone. Male was wearing a green hood, brown jacket, black pants with bag. Caller wished to be anonymous and would not provide contact information. Police sent. The male party would be on his way.

3:17 p.m. - Staff reported an intoxicated male outside their side door at Tewksbury Florist. Described as a white male, thin build, white hat and green pullover. Staff does not feel comfortable asking him to move. Police sent. They reported the male went into the store. Male party was sober just needed a ride back to Lowell/Lowell line. Police providing a transportation.

6:53 p.m. - Received call from male party that his girlfriend and her mother were at Longhorn Streak House drinking. His girlfriend had her two teenage children with her. He does not know if they were in the building eating or not. Police sent, but the vehicle was gone on arrival.

Friday, February 23

5:28 a.m. - Employee at Mobil Tewksbury reported there were three people approximately 20-years old on scooters and wearing backpacks. Caller

reported they were sitting in the area for a while and found it to be suspicious due to it being early in the morning. Caller reported they were no longer able to see them and took off toward Lowell. Police sent. The described individuals were not found. Nothing was out of place. The clerk reported the males in question were just hanging out.

9:01 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a white male, bearded and large build, wearing ripped dark clothing was yelling and being verbally aggressive toward staff and told them the police took his ID so he wanted AAA to produce him and new ID at AAA. Male was last seen heading to Main Street. Police sent. They checked the area and spoke to party, no crime, no argument, party appeared to be developmentally delayed but was with his able brother and they both left the scene.

4:08 p.m. - A 911 caller who reported they were having an argument about him taking the car he bought at Sena Motors Inc. Officer filed a report.

Saturday, February 24

1:02 a.m. - Police out at Circle K with a disturbance. They provided courtesy transport for one juvenile female. Kids over 18 took Uber home and others were picked up by adults. Officer filed a report.

2:09 a.m. - Caller reported a motor vehicle were

driving erratically, going over the yellow line and swerving at Whipple Road. Vehicle heading south Whipple toward Wilmington. Police sent. All checked out.

7:19 p.m. - Market Basket Manager called and requested panhandler be removed from the area. Male party wore a beanie and has two children with him, located near the front door. Police sent. They spoke with the male party and checked out.

7:50 p.m. - Caller reported a motor vehicle crossed multiple lanes of traffic and ran the red light at Main Street and Shaw-sheen Street. Police sent and stopped the vehicle by Nelson. They spoke to the operator regarding her operation. She was cited for a number plate violation.

Sunday, February 25

2:52 a.m. - Police out with a motor vehicle at East Street and Maple Street. They reported the vehicle would be moving along from that location.

3:31 p.m. - Caller reported an erratic driver that hit a mailbox on Kendall Road and Smitty's Liquor. Police sent. Michael Walsh, 54, of 15 Marlyn Road in Billerica, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor, negligent operation of motor vehicle, leave scene of property damage, marked lanes violation, and possess open container of alcohol in the motor vehicle.



Wilmington Police Log

Caller threatens to burn Lowell Street business

Friday, Feb. 16:

10:37 a.m.: A gray 2023 Audi Q5 and a gray 2018 Honda Accord were involved in a motor vehicle accident near the Registry of Motor Vehicles on Middlesex Avenue. No injuries were reported, and paperwork was exchanged.

3:39 p.m.: A red 2009 Subaru Forester and a gray 2018 Volvo V90 Cross Country were involved in a motor vehicle accident, with one vehicle sideswiping the other, pulling over briefly, and then heading south towards Woburn. Woburn police were notified so they could head to the operator's residence and speak with them.

10:48 a.m.: A walk-in party from Burlington Avenue reported that her car had been egged.

Saturday, Feb. 17:

4:22 a.m.: Lyndsie K Olson of 77 Clubhouse Dr., in Hingham, was arrested for possession of a class A drug. This followed a caller on Silverhurst Avenue requesting police to remove his girlfriend from his residence, as she would not stop yelling.

3:37 p.m.: Police were called to a neighbors' dispute on Burt Road, related to family members owning properties. Peace was able to be restored.

5:14 p.m.: Two separate callers at the Market Basket on Main Street reporting a white woman wearing a white hoodie and black sweatpants recording people and yelling at/harassing them. The woman was sent on her way, and peace was restored.

Sunday, Feb. 18:

3:42 a.m.: A woman on the Rt. 125 Hwy. stated that she and her boyfriend got into a verbal argument, and while she was stopped at a red light, her boyfriend hopped out of the vehicle, and requested for assistance looking for him. Later, her boyfriend texted her, stating that he was in an Uber. Wilmington police contacted police in Auburn, NH, to make sure he got home safely.

11:55 a.m.: A caller at the TJ Maxx on Main Street reported that while her daughter was sitting in her vehicle, a man and woman in the next vehicle attempted to enter her vehicle and were yelling at her.

cle and were yelling at her.

2:38 p.m.: A homeowner on Woburn Street reported damage to her fence, and spoke to a neighbor who recalled hearing a noise Friday night and looking outside to see a car speeding off from the damaged area of the fence. Police spoke to her, and she stated that her neighbors had a Ring camera, but police were unable to make contact with the neighbors.

Monday, Feb. 19:

2:22 a.m.: Norman Frank Kilavattitu of 25 Trowbridge St., Apt. #1, in Belmont, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle, and a number plate violation. This followed a stop of his gray 2018 Audi A5 near the Cornerstone Mitsubishi on Main Street.

10:38 a.m.: A juvenile was

issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and failure to stop/yield. This followed them getting into a motor vehicle accident near the Starbucks on Main Street.

3:44 p.m.: A caller on Main Street reported that he had been following a white Mercedes after he witnessed a man hitting a female passenger after a possible argument. However, police were unable to locate the vehicle, and a neighbor of the suspected parties stated that the female party had not resided at the residence in the past eight years.

Tuesday, Feb. 20:

8:49 a.m.: Claudio Jose Araujo of 109 Felker St., Apt. #77, in Lowell, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license. This followed a stop of his brown 2003 Ford Explorer on Main Street.

4:45 p.m.: A caller at Franco Chicken on Lowell Street reported that he was receiving threats from someone saying that they will go there tonight and burn the place down. The caller reported that a suspect could be driving a black SUV with New Hampshire license plates.

5:44 p.m.: A caller on Horseshoe Lane states that she got texts from an app, from someone who she believed was her child's father threatening to show up, possibly with a firearm. She stated she wasn't at the address he was threatening to go to, but at her grandmother's apartment. The woman was taken to the police station to possibly obtain a restraining order, but was denied by a judge.

Wednesday, Feb. 21:

2:10 a.m.: Lowell police called, requesting Wilmington police make contact with the registered owner of a vehicle to see who may have been driving a vehicle they found in Lowell, as they suspected the vehicle may have been stolen. The owner's father was contacted, who managed to get in touch with his daughter in Lowell.

2:03 p.m.: A green 2009 Toyota Camry backed into a wall on Hobson Drive. No injuries were reported, and the homeowner was notified of the damage.

8:01 p.m.: A car was reported to have been involved in a rollover accident on the I-93 NB Hwy. The fire department located the vehicle, and state police were to handle the

situation.

Thursday, Feb. 22:

6:25 a.m.: Justin M Paglia of 75 Lake St., in Tewksbury, was issued a summons for negligent operation of a motor vehicle, speeding in violation of special regulations, and a marked lanes violation. This followed him crashing his vehicle on Glen Road. Additionally, he reported to have suffered a head injury in the accident.

5:48 p.m.: Ranier J Lakus of 5 Franklin St., in Pepprell, was issued a summons for negligent operation of a motor vehicle, failure to stop for a pedestrian, and speeding. This followed a report of his vehicle hitting a pedestrian near the Dunkin' Donuts on Main Street.

8:35 p.m.: Anthony Perrotto of 65 Princeton St., Apt. #331, in Chelmsford, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended/revoked registration, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This followed a caller in front of the police station on Adelaide Street reporting a road rage incident and requesting assistance.

Local students named to Dean's List at UMass Amherst

AMHERST — Below is a list of local students who were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall 2023 semester.

In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

TOWKSBURY

- Amena Bhatti
- Andrew Justin Bielecki
- Lauren Ava Bielecki
- Lindsey Rain Booth
- Albert Russell Bosworth
- Julia Bragg
- Marykate Abigail Callinan
- Mitchell Austin Canavan
- Lyndsey Marion Cokkinos
- Rebecca Ann Deck
- Hailey Anne Furilla
- Julia Elizabeth Garland
- Lily Ann Gigante
- Renee Michelle Graczyk
- Marissa Marie Heinze
- Fiona Alexis Ho
- Elizabeth Mary Kenneally
- Charlie Kwartler
- Lukas Jeremy Lemos

WILMINGTON

- Sarah Linda Bryan
- Peter J DiAdamo
- Landrick Reyes Diaz
- Liam James Dwyer
- Cameryn Mae Foresyth
- Emersyn Kathleen Foresyth
- Joe Mark Ganley
- Anna Francesca Germano
- Emily Isabel Gray
- Brian Sungmin Her
- Nathaniel Joseph Howlett
- Braden Robert Huddleston
- Sara Murree Hughes
- Samuel Chu Juergens
- Alexa Kelley
- Talina Fouad Khalil
- Marni Briana McBride
- Katherine McLaughlin
- John Francis McNamara
- Kelsey Sierra Mendonca
- Gianna Francesca Misuraca
- Paul Peter O'Connell III
- Carina Lee O'Donnell
- Nathaniel Francisco Packer
- Ryan William Packer
- Jared Eamon Parks
- Aryan Patil
- Shane Penney
- Nicolas Calogero Piazza
- Emily Pinto
- Abigail Cecile Reddivari
- Annika Therese Reddivari
- Denizio Joseph Ricupero
- Ethan Jun-Git Ryan
- Evan Joseph Shackelford
- Richard John Stuart
- Manav Ashwin Thakkar
- Dylan Quoc Hao Tran
- Christopher Theophilis Vallas

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Resident suggests project over budget

DATES FROM AGE 1

Hugh Vandermark Jr. with concerns about the 40b development at 79 Nichols St., and from Frank West sharing that the North Wilmington train station is nearing final design completion according to the MTBA Advisory Committee.

Resident Kevin MacDonald made several claims during public comment to which the board responded. In response to a question about the town disposing of contaminated material on a private farm, which MacDonald claimed may bring on a lawsuit, Cimaglia explained that the DPW oversees an operation where the town hauls materials to various

sites depending on the need, one of which is an approved agricultural site in Holden.

He also questioned why the town allows the use of a firing range that requires lead pickup, and Cimaglia said there is a system that collects all the lead. MacDonald proposed that money be used to send the police department elsewhere for target practice.

MacDonald also suggested the new town hall/school administration building is overbudget, possibly due to a lack of oversight from the bids proposed. The board members said this would be news to them.

In announcements, Kevin Cairra wished firefighter

David Woods luck in his retirement, and West thanked the town department heads contributing at the ongoing Finance Committee hearings.

The Salute to Service that night went out to Corporal Charles Gill, who served in Vietnam from 1965 to 1969 and in the Marine reserves until 1971. Bendel mentioned Gill's receipt of a purple heart, national defense service medal, Vietnam Service medal with two stars, presidential unit citation, and good conduct medal.

He shared condolences to Gill's family, as Gill passed away on Feb. 6 at the age of 76, and thanked him for his service.



(Courtesy photo)

Wilmington offering rain barrels at a discount

WILMINGTON — The summer of 2023 was the second-wettest on record in Boston, with 20 inches of rain in three months. And heavy rains seem to be coming more often. When it rains too much in a matter of hours, Massachusetts towns and cities are struggling to handle all of the water.

This past summer, many communities reported several inches of rain within just a few hours. On Aug. 8, more than six inches of rain fell on parts of Massachusetts. Drivers were stranded in their cars. There were hundreds of no swimming days at local beaches this summer.

Heavy rains sent bacteria-laden stormwater into the ocean. By Oct. 2, there had been only five rain-free weekends since Memorial Day.

Northeast storms have brought at least 1.5 inches of heavy rain in a day and are expected to surge in the coming decades.

"This is the world we now live in. Every day we see weather that we haven't seen before. Things are happening that people haven't dealt with before," said Governor Maura Healey.

HOW TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Educating and encouraging local residents to use a rain barrel is one of the many ways homeowners can be part of the solution. A rain barrel can collect the runoff from roofs and gutters preventing the rain from making its way to impervious surfaces, which often end up in local streams, rivers, pond, lakes and marine waters. Keeping and using rain water on your property helps reduce pollution, erosion and improves local watershed health.

A 500 square foot roof can fill a properly installed 50-gallon rain barrel in about one hour.

A modest amount of rainfall can supply much or all of the outdoor watering needs — a full rain barrel will water a 200-square-foot garden.

CONSERVING WATER

During severe drought, rain barrels can provide an additional source of water.

According to the US EPA, 30 percent of daily water use is outdoors. The EPA also states that rain barrels have the ability to save the average homeowner 1,300 gallons of water annually. Using the rain barrel's stored water around the landscape saves wa-

ter resources and reduces the amount of water purchased from municipal sources.

Rain water is "soft," or free from minerals and chemicals such as chlorine, fluoride, and calcium often present in municipal water. Rainwater is considered ideal for watering plants or washing cars and windows.

To find out more about the barrels and to participate in The Great American Rain Barrel Program, please visit: www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community and select "Wilmington" as your town.

Barrels are offered for \$89.

Barrels will be available for pick up on Saturday, June 29, 2024, 9 to 11 a.m., at the Wilmington DPW Office (115 Andover St.). Deadline for purchase is June 16, 2024 at midnight.

About the Great American Rain Barrel

The Great American Rain Barrel is a local food-import company that has been repurposing shipping drums into Rain Barrels since 1988. The Great American Rain Barrel Co. has been an approved vendor by the MASS DEP since 2010.

37 articles set for warrant

ARTICLES FROM AGE 1

that the warrant article was being reviewed by town counsel, as the state forced a curveball in the town's plans at the last minute.

Article 32 would create a stabilization fund for the Shawsheen Tech.

Article 33 would make adjustments in the opioid litigation settlements.

Select Board member Kevin Cairra asked if the town had land in mind for the feasibility study for the fire substation. Cimaglia confirmed they were anticipating owning applicable land in the not-too-distant future.

Cairra also asked about the police department's request for money for tasers, as his understanding was that the town was supposed to receive a whole new set of tasers at no cost. Cimaglia replied the police chief could clarify, but he did suggest the models may have changed.

Cairra wondered why the Select Board was sponsoring the article for the Shawsheen Tech stabilization fund as opposed to the Shawsheen Tech School Committee. Cimaglia reminded the board they intended to invite the Tech Superintendent to a meeting. Chair Gary DePalma suggested they could invite

him for their next meeting.

Lastly, Cairra brought up the fact that the town typically pays an extra \$1 million to OPEB and \$1.5 million to the retirement system which, according to Finance Director Bryan Perry, does not provide any benefit in terms of the amount of time the town has to pay the unfunded liability.

"I don't know why we keep putting this amount of money into those funds," Cairra said.

Cimaglia pointed out that Perry helped him create the budget in the first place.

The annual Town Meeting will be on May 4, 2024.

Perry hired by board in 2019

FINANCE FROM AGE 1

chasing, treasury, financial systems, and assessing according to the job posting.

The finance director is particularly instrumental in the preparation of the annual town budget, a point reiterated by temporary Town Manager Lou Cimaglia as he gave the preliminary town manager's budget presentation to the Select Board on Feb. 12.

The current finance director, Bryan Perry, was hired by the Select Board in 2019. Perry worked for five years in this role in Wilmington. At the time he was hired, Perry told the Wilmington Apple that he felt his experience in private industry, with the Board of Appeals in North Andover, and lastly as Lowell's City Auditor had prepared him to serve in

this capacity.

As finance director, Perry also serves on the Town Manager Screening Committee and interacts with all town department heads.

The Select Board is responsible for hiring the town's finance director/town accountant. They are also in charge of hiring the town manager and the town counsel, and they are in the process currently of hiring the permanent town manager.

The board's process to hire Perry involved advertising the position and accepting applications, establishing and convening a screening committee including board members to review resumes and conduct preliminary interviews, conducting those reviews and interviews, preparing a short list of candidates to the board, and then board interview-

ing those candidates and voting to make a job offer.

It was also a priority at that time, according to then Town Manager Jeff Hull, to ensure that the new finance director was established before the previous finance director departed.

The board has made no mention of Perry's departure nor received any memo in communications informing them of his leave. However, in order to follow the established process used previously, they will need to set up the screening committee to review the applications received at the closing of the job posting.

Perry declined to comment to the *Town Crier* at this time.

It is unknown currently if he will remain in place long enough to allow a transition for the new finance director.

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38 College Rd was sold to Chawla, Mehma K by Rawal, Suhail and Joyco LLC for \$700,000 on 02/07/24

18 Stoneybrook Rd was sold to Kamble, Shyam H and Kamble, Pradnya by Mitchell, Joan M and Manahan, Cheryl for \$628,000 on 02/09/24

2 Terrace Hall Ave was sold to Sharma, Kapil and Slathia, Neha by Asset Redevelopment Corp for \$1,535,000 on 02/08/24

12 Wheatland St was sold to Venkatesan, Varshini and Venkatasubramanian, Arvin by Elizabeth Melanson Ft and Melanson Jr, Frank J for \$704,000 on 02/09/24

LYNNFIELD

79 Chestnut St was sold to Jg Nt and Guaracino, John by Rybo Inc for \$1,925,000 on 02/09/24

5 Melch Rd was sold to Dinapoli Re Prop Inc by Varricchio, Mary R for \$675,000 on 02/08/24

15 Stanley Rd was sold to Andrews 3rd, Paul J and Stevens, Jessica by George Munroe 2021 RET and Dalelio, Susan for \$1,035,000 on 02/09/24

NORTH READING

189 Haverhill St was sold to Liang, Isaac and Liang, Emily by B Lavers LLC for \$1,321,000 on 02/07/24

16 Shasta Dr was sold to Hill, Matthew B and Hill, Genna R by Flanagan Jr, Donald B and Flanagan, Jan R for \$1,450,000 on 02/07/24

READING

26 Parkman Rd was sold to Kasirye, Paul and Kasirye, Katrina by Riffe, Michael L and Riffe, Teresa L for \$750,000 on 02/08/24

STONEHAM

100 Ledgewood Dr #215 was sold to Curtis, Patricia M by Fairchild, Marsha W for \$485,000 on 02/07/24

300 Park Terrace Dr #302 was sold to Jcg Investments LLC by Demarco, Lawrence J and Crosscountry Mortgage LL for \$185,000 on 02/08/24

15 Parkway Rd was sold to Taylor, Michael J by Taylor Joseph E Est and Taylor, Michael J for \$509,200 on 02/07/24

TWICKSBURY

44 Colonial Dr was sold to Hernandez, Javier E and Beltran, Olga R by Lor, Rasmey and Prum, Thavaleak for \$680,000 on 02/07/24

4 Independence Ave was sold to Magaletta,

Victor and Magaletta, Mary by Deberio Jr Louis J Est and Bowers, Diane E for \$600,000 on 02/09/24

885 Main St #B1 was sold to Jian Realty LLC by Agganis, Arthur and Gornatos, Dimitrios for \$650,000 on 02/05/24

43 Wilson Rd was sold to Bosio, Cole and Devito, Grace by Sheehan, Sharon E for \$605,000 on 02/07/24

WAKEFIELD

8 Dell Ave was sold to First Landing Invs LLC by Ref 2 Acquisition T and Us Bank TNA Tr for \$520,000 on 02/08/24

8 Dell Ave was sold to Pine Dreams LLC by First Landing Invs LLC for \$525,000 on 02/08/24

9 Stedman St was sold to Deluga, Katherine and Spencer 3rd, Paul by Philbrick, William E and Philbrick, Martha J for \$783,000 on 02/05/24

WILMINGTON

4 Oak St was sold to Hoff, Justin and Bertone, Amanda L by Olivieri Lawrence Ft and Olivieri, Francis X for \$699,900 on 02/09/24

5 Treasure Hill Rd was sold to Breed, Patrick and Breed, Jessie M by Ohalloran, Patrick and Ohalloran, Theresa for \$927,000

on 02/09/24

WINCHESTER

67 Florence St #67 was sold to Vesprini, Wesley L by Yu, Gary and Zhao, Peng for \$640,000 on 02/05/24

200 Swanton St #502 was sold to Pareene, Daniel by Quinn, Elaine M and Niland, Frederick M for \$205,000 on 02/06/24

WOBURN

11 Anna Rd was sold to Tarantino, Michael by 11 Anna Rd Rt and Paradise, Patricia A for \$735,000 on 02/05/24

33 Arlington St was sold to Barrett, Erin and Clooney, Jacqueline T by Sheila A Kula RET and Kula, Sheila A for \$520,000 on 02/07/24

31 Carroll Rd was sold to Mclean, Emily A by Jordan Mark H Est and Mclean, Virginia J for \$500,000 on 02/08/24

7 Cooley Dr #28 was sold to Dai, Jun and Wen, Simeng by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$1,030,295 on 02/08/24

7 E Dexter Ave #17 was sold to Alqudah, Aishah M and Alqudah, Jasmin M by 7 East Dexter LLC for \$278,400 on 02/09/24

15 Ward St was sold to Joseph, Rebecca B and McLaughlin, Andrew J by Ames, Nicoli for \$810,000 on 02/07/24

• READING FROM A8

while considering the 86-unit Eaton Lakeview apartment redevelopment across from the town's Market Basket store. With a number of other nearby multi-family housing developments planned for Reading Center and in Wakefield, local officials in a subsequent study released in March of 2021 began considering ways to encourage more pedestrian and cyclist activity in the area.

That 2021 report, prepared by Green International Affiliates, included various options for adding bicycle lanes and shared-use walking trails. It also proposed options for improving traffic flow and safety through features like roundabouts and dedicated left-hand turning lanes.

During the latest forum in the Reading Public Library, Cares and experts from consulting firm Kimley-Horn unveiled plans to add cycling lanes and greenscape areas along Walkers' Brook Drive by rearranging the Reading section of the four-lane thoroughfare into a three-lane configuration.

The series of redesign options were prepared after the town received a \$250,000 Massachusetts' Housing Choice grant back in 2022.

"We have identified Walkers Brook Drive as a place people utilize from a vehicular standpoint to access Market Basket and other commercial properties. We've also identified as a very common route to Lake Quannapowitt. So what we really want to talk about is ways to make it a multimodal corridor," Cares explained.

In total, three potential designs for Walkers Brook Drive were unveiled.

Under Alternative 1, bike lanes would be added to either side of Walker's Brook Drive along the shoulder of the road. Six foot sidewalks, which already exist on both sides of the road between Market Basket and the 128 Honda dealership by the I-95 overpass, would also remain.

The second option would create a 10-foot wide "shared-use" path on the Bertucci's Pizzeria or Market Basket side of Walkers Brook Drive that could be used by both cyclists and pedestrians.

A five-inch planting strip with granite curbing would then separate that path from vehicular travel lanes. Under Option 2, an enlarged 8.5-foot wide sidewalk would also be created (the current walkway is



six-foot wide) on the Home Depot side of the corridor.

"So instead of having bikes on the road itself, we're taking them and putting them on one side. It's used to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists," Kimley-Horn consultant Wing Wong explained during the recent public forum.

Option 3 would designate the Bertucci's/Market Basket side of Walkers Brook Drive for cyclists by establishing a two-way and 10-foot wide "cycling track" that would be separated from the main road by a five-foot wide planting strip.

The sidewalk on the opposite Home Depot side would remain untouched in its current six-foot wide configuration.

All three of the design options presented by the consulting team would result in the loss of one travel lane from Walkers' Brook Drive.

Regardless of where bike lanes are placed, traffic flow would be altered under all three alternatives by creating a series of dedicated left-hand turning lanes into major commercial properties that sit along the corridor, including:

- at signalized intersection onto I-95 north;
- at the unsignalized driveways into the 128 Honda dealership and the Shell Station/Dunkin Donuts franchise;
- at the signalized driveway into Home Depot and Jordan's Furniture plaza;
- at the signalized intersection with New Crossing Road;
- and at the signalized entrance into Market Basket by Lakeside Avenue.

According to Kimley-Horn officials, based on data from a survey answered by 310 Walkers Brook Drive users, 98 percent of respondents currently rely on the corridor to get to work each day.

More than half of survey participants travel along the roadway on a weekly basis, with 86 percent of those users doing their grocery shopping in the area. Roughly 78 percent of respondents say they shop in the area.

AAUW offers two scholarships for the 2024-2025 academic year

The Melrose-Wakefield Area Branch of the American Association of University Women is pleased to offer two scholarships for the 2024-2025 academic year.

A branch scholarship, which is in the amount of \$2,000.00, is available as a result of the fundraising activities of the branch and donations received in memory of branch members and their loved ones.

The other scholarship, which is in the amount of \$1,500.00, is offered from the Diana L. Goldblith Scholarship Fund, which was established by donations from Mrs. Goldblith's family and friends following her sudden death in

June 1990. Mrs. Goldblith, a longtime Melrose resident, was an active and enthusiastic participant in AAUW's Literature Group, Great Decisions Group, and Stellar Investment Club.

To be eligible, one must be a resident of Melrose, Wakefield, North Reading, Georgetown, Wilmington, Cambridge, or Georgetown, Maine. These are all communities from which the branch derives members this year. In addition, one must attend or be a graduate of a four-year AAUW-accredited college or university, and must have completed at least two years of study prior to the fall of 2024.

Special consideration will be given

to applicants who have maintained high academic standing and can demonstrate a need for the scholarship for a specific purpose related to educational goals. All applications will be processed anonymously.

Applications are available at the Branch website - aauwmw.wordpress.com/scholarships/.

To receive an application, candidates may also send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

AAUW Scholarship c/o Sullivan & Clark, 608 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176; Or an email request to jac_sullivanandclark@comcast.net.

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PART TWO

SUPPLEMENT TO THE DAILY TIMES • THE STONEHAM INDEPENDENT • WILMINGTON-TEWKSBURY TOWN CRIER

Americans plan to enjoy and not worry about diet and health

(BPT) - Three-quarters of Americans are planning to enjoy the end of the year and not worry about their diet - up from just half last year, according to a new survey.

Results of a recently released survey by Herbalife, a global health and wellness company, revealed that 72% of the 2,000 Americans surveyed want to make the most of the end of the year, regardless of what that means for their diet, compared to 54% in last year's survey.

That attitude may help explain why respondents in the sixth annual "Writing Off the End of the Year" survey expect to gain 8 pounds before the end of the year - compared to 5 1/2 pounds last year. The results also revealed that two-thirds (66%) of respondents use the end of the year to postpone being healthy - a 24% increase from the previous year.

"The end of the year should be a time to focus on family, friends and self-care," said Herbalife Chief Health and Nutrition Officer, Dr. Kent Bradley. "Identify specific, attainable actions you want to take to improve

your health and your mind-set, and if you can, bring your friends and family along on that health journey."

Despite leaning into temptation at the end of the year, 68% of respondents are confident they'll have healthy habits in the new year. And they expect it will take them an average of about 19 days to get back on track with their healthy habits, or to start new ones. With this in mind, 47% are planning to make a New Year's resolution for 2024, up from 32% the year prior.

The 2024 "Top 5" New Year's Resolutions are:

- * Eating healthier (68%)
- * Exercising more (66%)
- * Getting more sleep (56%)
- * Focusing on self-care (54%)
- * Saving money (53%)

To help set yourself up for success now and into the new year, Bradley recommends these six attainable resolutions to help people

lose holiday weight and achieve better health:

1. Be specific
Being too general with a resolution makes it difficult to follow. Rather than saying you'll exercise more or eat better, make your goal to work out three times a week or have a vegetable with every meal. These small, measurable and specific goals set you up for success.

2. Find a friend
A support network can be a big help on your health journey. Find a friend or group of like-minded people to support each other and keep everyone accountable. It also adds a social element that is essential for overall well-being.

3. Get moving
Physical activity is essential in getting healthy. According to guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, adults need 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity and two days of muscle strengthening activity, each week. It may seem like a lot, but breaking up the physical activity into 30-minute sessions, five days a week, makes it more manageable.

4. Add protein

Protein is a nutritional powerhouse that satisfies hunger and builds lean muscle mass. Include protein-rich foods like lean meat, poultry, eggs, legumes and seeds at every meal and snack to fuel your body and satisfy hunger throughout the day.

5. Avoid fad diets

It's tempting to jump on the newest trend but remember there are no quick fixes for health. Fad diets do not address the core problems that cause people to gain weight and often eliminate foods that are actually healthy, which can result in nutritional deficiencies.

6. Give yourself grace

Something is always better than nothing. If there isn't time for a 30-minute workout, do 15. If you can't make a home-cooked meal, order out a plant-based option. If you have an off day, don't give up completely. Focus on forward momentum even if you've taken a few steps back.

Aviva Country Club Heights: It began with the Boston Red Sox... Senior-living community celebrates new renovations and technology

AVIVA once housed the Boston Red Sox families (or so the story goes). Now AVIVA houses older adults in a delightful, renovated community.

Buddy LeRoux, general partner of the Red Sox in the late '70s and '80s, had originally been an athletic trainer and invested in rehabilitation facilities. So, again, as the story goes, when the Red Sox players went to physical therapy on Rehabilitation Way, their families would stay at 3 Rehabilitation Way - which is now AVIVA Country Club Heights.

The newly renovated AVIVA Country Club Heights enjoys a glorious location overlooking the greens of the Woburn Country Club, near shopping and dining, and only three miles from the Lahey Clinic.

No matter how lovely the community, opting for senior-living accommodations is a stressful decision for families. But it helps to know that a recent University of Chicago study has found that senior housing actually improves the lives of seniors as they adjust to a new, social, nurtured lifestyle found

in a senior community. That study might give families more comfort and confidence in their decision-making.

"At AVIVA Country Club Heights, we provide residents with just enough gentle, encouraging support to remain as independent as possible," says Joseph Holladay, director of sales. "It could entail simply reminding them to take their medications." In the meantime, he explains, residents enjoy a full calendar of activities and events. He adds "Social isolation increases the risk of all-cause mortality by 32%, so it is important to keep all our residents, whatever level of care they require, socially engaged."

For residents who require more care due to dementia or conditions affecting their memories, AVIVA's memory care program offers additional support by specially trained practitioners.

"This is a wonderful community," Holladay adds. "It's so full of love and friendship. Our approach to care is holistic and individual. It is truly exceptional senior living."

Buddy LeRoux would be proud.



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How Medicare Advantage addresses the social drivers of health

(BPT) - As a health care navigator at United-Healthcare, John wears many hats. Some days are spent helping members locate physicians in their area or better understanding their benefits, while others are filled with questions about billing. But providing the support members need often means looking beyond claims or copays to other issues impacting health - ones that aren't always seen as health care issues.

John recalls one member he worked with earlier this year whose largest obstacle was housing. Operating with a disability and on a single income, he struggled to navigate local programs designed to help people like him address housing challenges.

"So I did some re-

search, calling county and local offices to get information that might best fit his needs," John says.

He soon facilitated a conference call with the member and a neighborhood housing service in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to help him get "mortgage ready" and into stable housing. At the end of that call, the member told John, "You made my hero of the day list."

The impact of social drivers

Nearly 10% of Americans 65 years or older face food insecurity,[1] and between 2021 and 2022 the poverty rate for older adults increased from 10.7% to 14.1%, reflecting greater overall economic insecurity for American seniors.[2]

In response, the health

care system is paying much closer attention to the overall impact of these social factors.

"For a long time, health care was focused on acute and chronic illnesses, as well as an episodic model for how we manage specific conditions," said Dr. Alexander Billioux, chief medical officer for United-Healthcare Community and State and also responsible for leading the company's population health and social care efforts. "We're now taking a more holistic view, where we can improve health by thinking about the context in which people live their lives."

"That," he said, "is really where the social care component comes in."

Dr. Billioux adds that while traditional Medicare

is not really set up for identifying social needs or addressing them, managed care - and Medicare Advantage in particular - has that flexibility.

Making meaningful connections to meet social needs



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CONTINUED TO B4

The Fuller House Future Funds

Dear Friend,

I am writing to you on the behalf of The Fuller House of Stoneham, a 501 C 3 non profit organization, and our Charitable Campaign. We continue to thrive for over 100 years of continuous quality care to our senior citizens. What began in the early 1900's as a family's bequest of their home and substantial endowment with the vision to provide for the elderly population has blossomed into one of the finest small Rest Homes in New England.

We extend our request to area community members, businesses and families to become a part of the movement to support the Fuller family's mission to serve aging residents. A tax deductible charitable contribution can be made as a one time or recurring donation, as a memorial with a passing of a loved one or within estate planning.

Our quaint Bed and Breakfast style private bedroom facility is beautifully landscaped and maintained offering 24 hour care. Our affordable rates include three daily home cooked meals and snacks, medication management, assistance with ADL's (daily tasks), activities and additional amenities. The committed staff consistently goes above and beyond to ensure all the residents are well cared for; we truly are a fam-

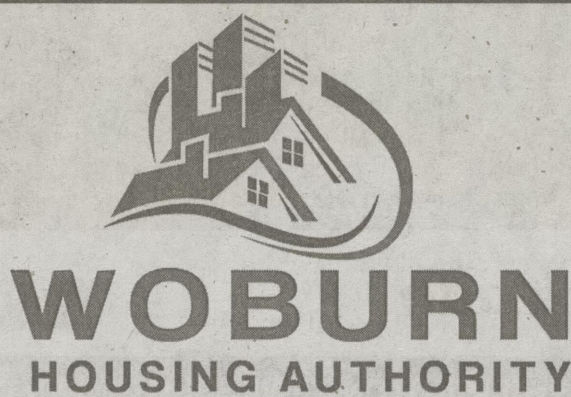
ily. Our qualified Staff and Board of Directors are committed to the ongoing success of The Fuller House; a unique alternative to large corporate facilities.

The Fuller House is a private pay facility and strives to continue to offer affordable and modest monthly rates. We also work closely with the Veteran Affairs and PACE programs for families who need financial assistance. 100 % of the donations received will be used for the residents and assist in maintaining the quality services that we offer and ensure that the mission to care for our elderly continues for many more years to come. I am sure the Fullers would be quite pleased and proud to see that their vision helped so many and remains so strong and vital.

Become a part of our continuing history; donate now and make a difference by giving to The Fuller House Futures Fund. All donations are greatly appreciated and can be submitted to The Fuller House located at 32 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180. Tours are always welcomed.

Warm Regards,

Judy Gallucci O'Brien,
Executive Director
James Corso,
Board of Director President



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Maintaining control over lifetime decision-making and your estate

As a practicing estate planning and elder law attorney for more than thirty-five (35) years, the best advice I can give to any client is that pre-planning for your lifetime needs is critical. If you want to maintain control over your future care and financial decisions during your lifetime and want your intentions to prevail regarding post-death estate distribution, establishing an estate plan is crucial. Establishing simple legal documents does not have to be elaborate or expensive and can save you and your family significant costs and potentially a lot of anguish and crisis planning later. Further, you will maintain control over who will act in the roles of your decision-makers in the future, in the event you are unable to act on your own behalf during lifetime. Simple planning can protect you from Court intervention and from others, who may not be

your choice of the persons who you would want to control your future decisions or your estate.

The first step in any estate plan should include documents related to lifetime planning and protections, such as a Durable Power of Attorney and Health Care Proxy. These documents insure that during lifetime an individual's financial and medical needs, intentions and wishes are followed. These documents take care of you during lifetime. Other documents, such as Wills and Trusts relate to division of your belongings and other assets after your death, which is of course important as well, but not as important as taking care of you personally and maintaining control in accordance with your wishes during your lifetime.

The following is a list of suggested planning to be considered in establishing or reviewing an estate plan to meet your individual goals. IN MY OPINION THE DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND THE HEALTH CARE PROXY ARE THE TWO (2) MOST IMPORTANT LEGAL DOCUMENTS FOR LIFETIME PLANNING AND PROTECTION TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER YOUR FUTURE DECISION-MAKING, however, I have also included other important estate planning suggestions to consider:

1. **DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY:** A Power of Attorney is a very simple and inexpensive legal document that allows you to designate an individual who is authorized to act in your place during your lifetime, to conduct and participate in financial transac-

tions on your behalf. This person, called your agent or attorney-in-fact, should be able to conduct any financial transaction in your place if you are either unable to do so, or if it is simply not convenient for you to do so, either temporarily or permanently. By executing a Power of Attorney, you avoid the risk of the Court appointing a Conservator to manage your affairs if you were to become unable to do so.

2. **HEALTH CARE PROXY:** The Health Care Proxy is the single most important estate plan document that any individual can have. It is a simple and inexpensive legal document that appoints the person of your choice as your health care agent, to speak on your behalf for medical decision-making ONLY in the event you are not legally competent or conscious to do so. It is important to name agents to avoid a Court appointed Guardianship, which is costly and can take weeks or months when a decision might be needed urgently.

3. **HIPAA RELEASE:** Separate and apart and in addition to a Health Care Proxy, a HIPAA release will allow your medical team to release information to those you name on the HIPAA release, whether you are competent or not at the time. Remember the Health Care Proxy will ONLY allow the release of information to your Health Care agent in the event you are not competent or conscious.

4. **WILL:** Determine if you need a new Will, or if you need to update or amend a current Will so that your post death wishes will

be followed regarding distribution of your estate.

5. **TRUSTS:** Determine if a Trust is right for you.

A Trust may be advisable if there is a specific need for holding assets in Trust, such as protecting assets for minor children or disabled individuals, or to avoid probate, or for tax planning, or in some cases an Irrevocable Trust for long term care planning.

6. **BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS:** Review and update all assets that allow you to designate a beneficiary, such as Life Insurance, Annuities, IRAs, 401ks, Retirement plans, etc. Assets with beneficiary designations are NOT controlled by your Will.

7. **REVIEW OWNERSHIP OF BANK AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS:** Bank accounts and investment accounts generally allow for PAYABLE ON DEATH (POD) or TRANSFER ON DEATH (TOD) designations. This form of ownership is generally advisable, as opposed to adding children or other relative's names to joint ownership on your accounts. Joint ownership is generally ill advised, since your assets would then be exposed to the risks of other joint owners, such as their accidents, divorces or other financial risks and liabilities.

8. **LONG-TERM CARE PLANNING:** Is there any planning advisable or recommended for you in case long-term care is needed or imminent? While pre-planning is advised, in the long-term care category many folks believe that plan-

ning must be completed five (5) years prior to the need for long term care. However, that is NOT always the case. Often planning can be beneficial even at the last minute when someone is near or already in nursing home care. DO NOT PRESUME IT IS TOO LATE FOR LONG TERM CARE PLANNING IF YOU DID NOT PLAN FIVE (5) YEARS IN ADVANCE.

Remember that every individual's situation is unique, whether related to assets, health issues, or family situations. It is important that you receive personal advice related to your specific situation and estate planning needs from qualified professionals.

Nothing contained in this article is intended as legal advice specific to your personal situation. Please consult an estate planning or elder law attorney of your choice to review your personal planning and circumstances.

About the author: Attorney Susan M. Mooney, is a partner in the law firm of Dalton & Finegold, LLP. She has been a practicing attorney for thirty-six (36) years. She received her law degree, summa cum laude, from New England Law/Boston in 1987 and undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts. She is admitted to practice in Massachusetts State and Federal Courts and the Supreme Court of the United States.

For further information about estate planning, visit our web site at www.dflp.com. The firm offers legal services in various areas of practice including, Probate and Elder Law, Wills, Trusts and Estates.

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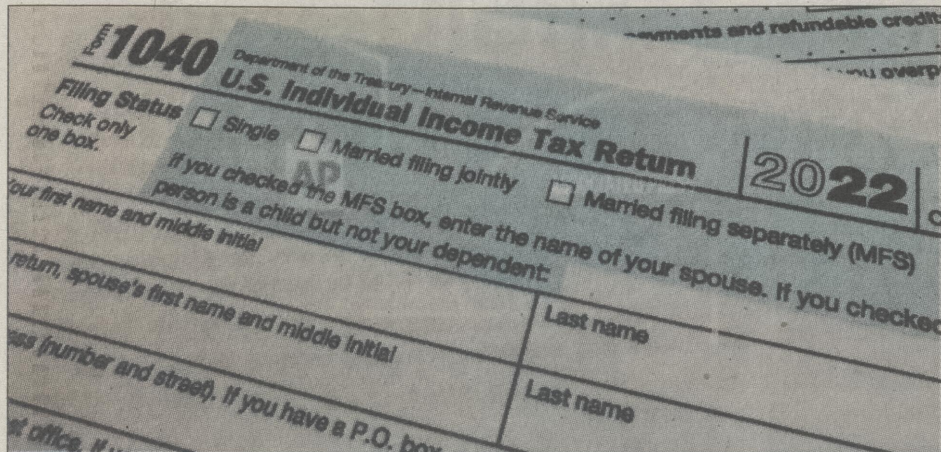
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When it comes to supporting seniors, choosing care is personal

By CORA LEWIS and LINLEY SANDERS

NEW YORK (AP) — A majority of taxpayers feel they pay too much in taxes, with many saying that they receive a poor value in return, according to a new poll from the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Two-thirds of U.S. taxpayers say they spend “too much” on federal income taxes, as tax season begins. About 7 in 10 say the same about local property taxes, while roughly 6 in 10 feel that way about state sales tax. Generally speaking, Republicans are more likely than Democrats to view taxes as unfair, to say they are paying too much in taxes, and to see taxes as a poor value.

The poll found that few U.S. adults have a high level of confidence that the institutions that ultimately use their tax dollars — whether the federal government or local school districts — spend those taxes in the best interest of “people like them.” But people tend to trust governing bodies closer to home with their tax dollars slightly more: 16% are extremely or very confident in their local school district, compared to 6% for the federal government.

Adults who are 60 and older are more likely than younger adults to perceive taxes, generally, as fair.

Chris Berry, a professor at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy who was involved in the creation of the poll, said that, overall, public opinion about taxes and trust in government has declined. He sees the poll results as partly reflecting increased political polarization but says the public has long typically trusted local government more than the federal government.

“One of the things you’ll hear said is, “There’s no Democratic or Republican way to collect the trash or pave the streets,” he said. “We tend to think of local government as less partisan.”

Among those who pay federal income taxes, half say they would prefer having fewer government services if it meant reducing their bill. One-third would keep their taxes the same in exchange for the same services, and 16%

would opt to increase taxes for more services.

Danny Velasquez, 39, a business manager and Democrat in Boston who answered the poll, said he trusts local government to spend his tax dollars better than the federal government.

Asked how he would prefer his federal tax dollars be spent, Velasquez said the government “spends too much on war-making” and that he’d prefer “national healthcare and investment in education.”

Only about 1 in 4 taxpayers say they get a good value from paying either federal income tax, state sales tax or local property tax. About 1 in 3 in each case say it’s a poor value, and roughly 4 in 10 say the value is neither good nor bad.

According to the poll, most U.S. adults say they find either federal income tax or local property tax “unfair,” and about half say the same about state income tax, sales tax, and the federal Social Security tax.

Loretta Mwangi, 60, a Democrat who lives in Baltimore, sees taxes as fair and said she doesn’t have strong criticisms of how the government allocates tax dollars. Mwangi, who suffers from chronic pain after years of working in warehouses and as a security guard, currently lives on disability benefits.

“They’re going by how much you’re making and taking a percentage based on that,” she said. “There could be more support for education and for the homeless — there are a lot of people under the bridges still.”

Relatively few U.S. adults say they understand how the amount they owe is calculated. Only about 2 in 10 U.S. adults say they understand “extremely” or “very well” how amounts are determined for their local property tax. About one-quarter say they grasp the calculations for federal income tax. About 3 in 10 say they comprehend how state sales tax is calculated.

Yoany Mesa, 40, a computer engineer and Republican in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, said he doesn’t view the tax system as “equitable or transparent.”

He and his wife, Grettel, 34, an auditor for a dental insurance company, said they perceive the federal tax code as full of loop-

holes, especially for the wealthy.

“There are a lot of things you hear people with money are able to claim — an inside club. I think if certain people have dependents, they should be able to get credits,” Grettel Mesa said. During the pandemic, the couple had received expanded child tax credits, for example, they said, but that policy ended in 2022.

Mesa said she had also previously trusted her local government more to spend their tax dollars, but that their area has recently been experiencing frequent flooding and sewage overflow, which makes her question that budgeting.

“There’s a lot of infrastructure spending that seems to be going by the wayside,” she said. “The money was supposed to go towards fixing the sewage systems — so where is that money going?”

The poll of 1,024 adults was conducted Dec. 14-18, 2023 using a sample drawn from NORC’s probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.2 percentage points.

No one likes to be in a position of asking for help, but as we get older, most of us have to get comfortable accepting assistance. That help might be cobbled together from family and friends, paid staff or the community. When your support system is loosely organized, it can all fall apart if the usual help isn’t available, or when you temporarily need extra support, like after surgery.

The question is, how can you get the right amount of reliable help without giving up the independence that you value? Consider PACE, like the Element Care PACE program that operates in more than 40 towns across the North Shore and Merrimack Valley. PACE stands for Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, and it certainly does include a lot of different kinds of support for older adults who need extra help but want to keep living in the communities they call home.

A big part of what makes Element Care PACE unique is the healthcare. Rather than chasing referrals and appoint-

ments all over town, all of your doctors, specialists and visits happen through Element Care’s network. They have all the bases covered, including dental, vision, and hearing, as well as mental health, nutrition, and physical and occupational therapy. When you’re in the program, all these health services are included and available when you need them.

Like so many aspects of life with PACE, your healthcare is personalized based on what you need. If you need services at home, you can get help with your meals, personal care or housekeeping. For folks who want to get out and about, one of the best parts of the program is everything that’s going on at the Day Centers.

Element Care’s centers in Lynn, Gloucester, Beverly, Methuen and Lowell are a bustling hub of activity every day, with safe transportation provided. Besides being the location for most of your health services, the Day Centers are where other seniors gather to socialize, enjoy meals together, exercise,

and take part in any number of activities from cards and games to crafts and dancing. At the end of the day, you get to go home to your familiar surroundings.

More help is something we all need as we get older, but getting the support you need is a personal choice. When your independence is at stake, you need a reliable system that’s personalized for your lifestyle. With a program like Element Care PACE, participants get to enjoy the best of both worlds: true independent living, at home in the community, along with highly personalized and all-inclusive care for all the important things. When you can count on help like that, you can get back to enjoying your independence without relying on friends or family for every little thing.

If you or a loved one could benefit from PACE at Element Care, call today to talk to their knowledgeable staff and find out if you qualify at (877) 803-5564 (TTY 711). Or, learn more online at elementcare.org.

Do you have high cholesterol? You may be able to join a clinical research

Many people struggle to lower their cholesterol, even though there are medicines available that can help lower LDL-C (the “bad” cholesterol).

High cholesterol, if not treated, can lead to a type of heart disease called atherosclerosis.[1] This disease can raise your chance of having a heart attack or stroke.

“Currently available treatments are effective tools to treat high cholesterol, but some must be provided by a doctor by injection and can be hard for people to access,” said Dr. Christie M. Ballantyne, Professor of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine.

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No cost for MassHealth and Medicare eligible. Contact us for Medicare only and private pay options. Participants must receive all health care, primary and specialist physician services – other than emergency services – as authorized by PACE or be fully and personally liable for costs of unauthorized services.

Preparation is key: See how one football legend is helping defend himself against pneumococcal

(BPT) - Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Montana knows a thing or two about preparation - both on and off the field. With the big game coming up, we asked Joe about how preparation played a role in his football days - and how it continues to help him succeed in life after football.

Q: How are you preparing for the big game?

Joe: These days, my preparation for the big game looks a little different, which means I'm usually getting food ready to share with my family and friends. I look forward to our watch party every year!

Q: Why is preparation so important?

Joe: When it comes to football, a lot of work happens before kickoff. Getting to know your opponent ahead of time is key to having a strong defense - and planning how to strike on offense.

Now that I'm retired, I've realized that

preparation is a value I can apply to other aspects of my life, like my health. That's why I got vaccinated against pneumococcal pneumonia. And why I'm partnering with Pfizer to educate others about the risk of pneumococcal pneumonia.

Q: What is pneumococcal pneumonia?

Joe: Pneumococcal pneumonia is a potentially serious bacterial lung disease that can disrupt your life for weeks. It can even put you in the hospital or be life-threatening.

If you're 65 or older, like me, or 19 or older with certain underlying medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes or chronic heart disease, you're at increased risk.

Q: How can people prepare to help prevent pneumococcal pneumonia?

Joe: Vaccination is one of the best ways to prepare and help protect yourself from getting pneumococcal pneumonia. Your



doctor or pharmacist can provide information on vaccine options.

Q: When can you catch it?

Joe: Pneumococcal pneumonia can strike at any time, in any season. People typically think that pneumococcal pneumonia can only be caught in the winter or during flu season, but you can catch it any time of year. But vaccination is available all year round, so now is the time to ask your doctor or pharmacist if vaccination is right for you.

Q: What if you've had a pneumococcal

pneumonia vaccination before?

Joe: Even if you've already been vaccinated against pneumococcal pneumonia previously, your healthcare provider may recommend another vaccination against it for additional protection.

You don't want pneumococcal pneumonia standing in your way of enjoying the big game. Don't wait - ask your doctor or pharmacist about pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination today and visit knowpneumonia.com to learn more.

Brought to you by Pfizer.

Take Charge Of Your Life With Martial Arts Training

Tom had faced more than his fair share of challenges. His financial struggles seemed insurmountable and his health was failing due to a deadly disease. It felt like life was constantly throwing punches at him, leaving him battered and bruised. Despite the odds stacked against him, Tom refused to give up. He was determined to take charge of his life and turn things around. Seeking solace and strength, he turned to the ancient art of Martial Arts. Tom began his journey with Tai Chi, the gentle yet powerful martial art known for its graceful movements and focus on inner peace. It taught him patience, perseverance, and the importance of balance in both body and mind. As Tom delved deeper into his training, he embraced the disciplines of Kung Fu and Bagua. Kung Fu instilled in him discipline and strength, while Bagua honed his agility and adaptability. He no longer saw his financial struggles as insur-

mountable obstacles, but rather as challenges to be faced head-on.

But it wasn't just his finances that Tom was transforming. His health, once in jeopardy due to a deadly disease, began to improve as well. The discipline and focus of his martial arts training not only strengthened his body, but also boosted his immune system and overall well-being.

Tom's story is not unique. At Body Mind Systems we've had an opportunity to help countless individuals take their life to a new level. Body Mind Systems offers free introductory classes. The best time to make a change is now.

For more information, go to <https://www.bodymindsystems.com>, email us at info_stoneham@bodymindsystems.com or call 781-279-1400 to speak with an instructor.



Medical Advantage *(Continued from B2)*

Making meaningful connections to meet social needs

Turning data into action is where UnitedHealthcare has made great strides over the past few years. In 2022 alone, the company screened 4.7 million Medicare Advantage enrollees for social needs using an approach that included health risk assessments; phone calls; in-person visits; and analysis of surveys, claims and administrative data. Of those screened, UnitedHealthcare identified 2 million enrollees with unmet social needs that could be impacting their health.[3]

But identifying these needs was just the first step. Using individualized outreach tactics dictated by members' noted preferences-UnitedHealthcare contacted 1 million people who said they wanted help, and from there made 2.3 million social-needs referrals to various national and regional social services programs.

Ultimately, UnitedHealthcare verified that 853,000 Medicare Advantage enrollees were connected to services and supports that addressed a social need. And the result wasn't just a step toward better health, but also meaningful cost savings for these individuals. In 2023, the

company is expanding its outreach efforts and expects to screen more than 5.5 million members-driving even more connections to important support services for those in need.

"We're taking those extra steps by telling members these programs exist, as well as contacting, coordinating and advocating," Billieux says. "People who have had long exposure to the health system might think that no one is paying attention to these social drivers. So we're working hard to try and change that, because we really are here to help."

Added John, "I love having the opportunity to help our members; I want to be that person."

To learn more about how UnitedHealthcare's holistic medical and social support model is identifying and addressing the needs of millions of people each year, access the research brief on UnitedHealthGroup.com.

[1] "Risk Factors Associated with Food Insecurity..." NCBI.gov.

[2] "Older Adults Again Experience Increase in Poverty", ncoa.org.

[3]

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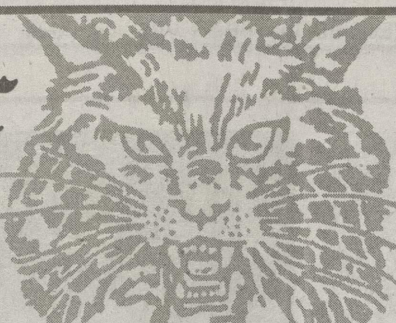
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For Bryson, it's all good at All-States

Senior is
state's best
female
wrestler at
126 pounds

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High School wrestling record books are long.

Since 1996, there have been eight individual state titles, 10 all-state place finishers, and one all-state champion.

Not only were the record books reopened last weekend, they've been rewritten.

Just one week after her divisional state title, Hannah Bryson was crowned all-state champion, joining Derek Hanley (2002-03) as the second all-state victor in the program's history.

More importantly, she's the first-ever female champion.

"I can't even comprehend it, I can't comprehend how far I've come," said Bryson. "I don't really think it's set in all the way yet."

When Bryson shutout Kamila Vizcinesk of Arlington 14-0 at the 2024 MIAA Girls All-State Championships at Salem High School on Saturday, all the emotions came out.

She saw herself breaking the gender barrier by being the first female to join Wilmington's program last year.

She remembered the initial struggles she endured while learning the basics and the dedication she had over the summer to perfect her craft.

It was all worth it for the senior.

"It's very exciting and a little overwhelming," said Bryson. "After I won my finals match, I ran over to my coaches and just started crying because I was so relieved and happy."



Hannah Bryson battles during the finals on her way to first place at Saturday's all-state tournament in Salem.

(Photo by Doug Hastings)

WHS coach Kevin Riley saw Bryson come onto the scene last winter, witnessing her progression every step of the way. Bryson's victory marks Wilmington's first all-state winner in 21 years.

"To be able to sit there and get a front-row seat and watch this has been amazing," said the coach. "We couldn't be more proud of her."

"We knew going into it that would be a tough match up," Arlington High wrestling coach Kevin Cummings said. "(Bryson) is well coached and works hard. She is solid in all three positions and extremely tough on top. It was also nice to see the Middlesex Girls wrestling represent well at the All-States."

Bryson's win comes fresh off her divisional state championship the weekend prior, where she became the program's first state champion in 16 years since Ken Joyce after beating Mia Marigliano of Franklin County in a 5-0 decision in the 126-pound weight class.

"I wanted to win it," she said of her performance at states. "I was seeded first, so I was predicted to win. The two girls who were seeded below me at second and third I had beat previously in the season. So I felt pretty good about it."

Bryson entered all-states as the first seed yet again, shaking off those nerves in her first match — a pin over Izabella Guzman of Holyoke — to cruise her way to the finish line.

She pinned Daniela Garcia of Lawrence before her big win over Vizcinesk in the final.

"I went into that match, and I wrestled the girl previously," said Bryson of her finals match. "I knew it was going to be tough, but I knew I could win it as long as I stayed calm and I didn't make mistakes. The only way that she was going to get me is if I messed up. My strategy really was just to stay calm and be myself."

"She was looking for the front headlock to try and snap me down, and I ended up shooting a blast double, which I've never done before," she continued. "I don't even practice doubles in practice. I never shoot doubles, and it felt right. She went down right away. It felt amazing."

After a successful first season of wrestling that landed her third on the podium at all-states, Bryson took to the mat this summer to work on her skills, attending various camps and clinics around the country to familiarize herself with techniques she felt comfortable with.

"I feel like I really nar-

rowed down this season what works for me in particular," Bryson said. "Last season I was just trying to fit as much in my brain as possible to try and remember as much as possible, and this season I figured out what was going to work for me."

That mindset transferred to the practice room this season.

"She's one of those kids, first to practice, last to leave," said Riley. "Every day. She always wants to practice, and you can see the progression on a daily basis with her."

"I got really good at doing a sweep-single takedown," she said. "Last year I really didn't shoot any take-

downs at all. I probably got like two or three takedowns all season. This year, I got a takedown in at least more than half of my matches."

But Bryson isn't done yet, as she searches for the trifecta with the New England championships on the docket for this weekend. Bryson placed fifth at the tournament last season.

"I'm definitely not as nervous as I was for states and all-states," she said. "I really, really wanted that state title and this I want to win, but there's no pressure to win."

Regardless of the outcome, her journey from first-time wrestler last December to state and all-state champion is nothing

short of inspirational.

"My coaches and my teammates have been so amazing and so supportive," added Bryson. "So many of my teammates didn't make it to all-states, but they were all there to support me for both days."

"She's a role model to her teammates, and she's an inspiration to girls," said Riley.

Other Wildcats at all-state meet Julien Cella, Clyde Lambert and Mohamed Said also represented WHS at the all-state tournament.

Cella competed at 150 pounds and won two matches, Said wrestled at 190 pounds and Lambert battled for the Wildcats at heavyweight.



▲ Mollie Osgood will represent WHS at this weekend's New England championship track and field meet in Boston for the high jump. (Courtesy photo)

Osgood advances to New Englands

She's fourth in high jump at all-state meet

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
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Mollie Osgood placed fourth in the high jump at the Massachusetts Meet of Champions (All-State Meet) on Saturday, Feb. 24.

Osgood cleared a seasonal best of 5

feet, 4 inches and qualified for the New England Championships that will be held on Saturday, March 2 at the Reggie Lewis Center.

Opening height for the girls was 5-2 and Osgood cleared that height and 5-4 on her first attempts before missing three times at 5-6.



▲ Senior captain Katie Desaulniers is in action during a recent Wildcat victory. (Joe Brown photo)

Gymnasts advance to state finals

Led by Ganley, Wilmington/Bedford is fourth at sectional event

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
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The Wilmington/Bedford High gymnastics team finished fourth at last weekend's sectional championships, advancing to the state finals this upcoming weekend.

Masconomet Regional won the sectional crown, Central Catholic was second and Danvers/Lynnfield came in third.

Wilmington totaled 139.775 points, just ahead of Middlesex League rivals Reading and Burlington. Winchester and Arlington also finished behind Wilmington/Bedford at the event.

Alissa Ganley of Wilmington led the

way for the locals, placing ninth overall with an all-around score of 36.8.

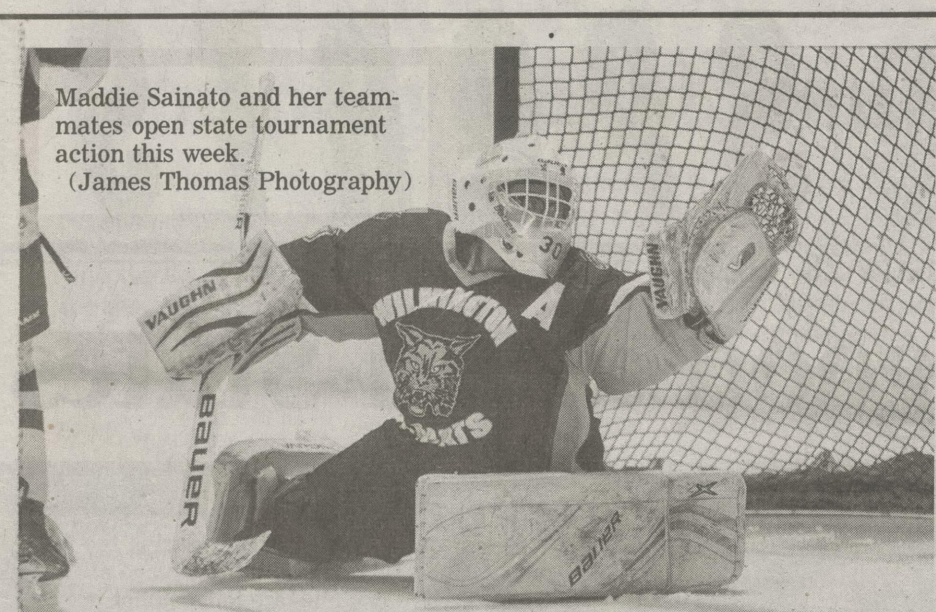
Ganley scored better than 9.0 in all four events with a 9.35 on bars, 9.2 on the balance beam, a 9.150 on the floor exercise and a 9.1 on vault.

Lexi Masters was 13th overall and second for Wilmington/Bedford with a total of 36.275.

Masters had a 9.4 on vault and a 9.25 on the floor to highlight her day.

Maddie Plurad (tie for 64th), Katie Desaulniers (90th), Emma Callahan (105th) and Jordan Haering (211th) also represented Wilmington/Bedford.

Also competing for the team was Melanie Perales, Kaylee Wood, Mary Bujalski, Molly Lovell and Chanel Krang.



Maddie Sainato and her teammates open state tournament action this week.
(James Thomas Photography)



Bobby Cyr and the Wildcats open tournament play on Wednesday.

(Photos by Doug Hastings)

Boys hoop, boys hockey and girls hockey start playoffs this week

State tournament notebook:

Wildcat squads ready for postseason action

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Just like that, it's tournament time for basketball and hockey squads across the state.

For Wilmington High, that means three teams have a shot at hardware this winter.

Whether it's a bounce back from last year or looking to establish themselves across the state, each team's story is different.

Bresnahan a big part of girls basketball's turnaround.

It's been night and day for the Wilmington High School girls hoop squad. After a 6-14 record held them out of the postseason last season, the Wildcats have completely flipped the script.

Wilmington posted a 10-10 season on the courts this winter, slotted as the No. 17 seed in the Div. 3 field. The 'Cats travel to play Fontbonne in the round of 32 on Thursday.

Shaylan Bresnahan is a prime example of how minor adjustments translate to drastic improvements on the parquet.

"Last year I didn't play much, but this year I'm playing a lot more," she said. "I see myself out there a lot and doing more things than I did last year."

Bresnahan has been assigned the duty of patrolling the paint — boxing out and collecting rebounds on the defensive end and being an outlet on the offensive side as a drive-and-kick option — that has taken Wilmington's offense to a whole new level.

"I realized I'm the bigger body on the court, so I knew I had to get a lot of rebounds and do a lot of things right under the hoop," Bresnahan said. "Now I feel like I've grown

so much.

"I always knew that she was good at passing," added WHS coach Chris Frissore. "She's very aware of everything. Her passing ability is really good, and her confidence in finishing has gotten a lot better too."

Bresnahan will be called upon to make an impact on Thursday, holding down the backcourt against a feisty Fontbonne squad.

"They have a big girl who is really good," said Frissore. "So I'm looking for Shaylen to play well."

Regardless of Thursday's outcome, Bresnahan will sure be having fun, keeping her teammates positive along the way.

"I obviously do like to have fun, I think about the fun of it a lot. Maybe a little bit too much," she said with a laugh. "I try to just keep everybody up. A lot of players get down when they miss or down when there's a bad call, but I try to keep everybody up and know that it's alright. I think that's my role."

"I think if we show up to play from the start of the game, we'll be ready," added Frissore.

"We'll be good. The main point is starting quickly. Not waiting until we realize that we have to play hard. Play hard from the jump and be ready to go."

Veteran Cyr leads 7th-seeded boys hockey The Wilmington High School boys hockey squad has been through the gauntlet this season. Playing the likes of Arlington and Winchester, among others, on a nightly basis in the Middlesex League was challenging, resulting in a 6-12-2 record this winter.

The good news? The boys are aligned in the Div. 4 ranks, and their effort this season landed them 7th out of 32 participating squads.

"I think we're a battle-tested team with a strong schedule, and we've had a pretty decent back half of the year," said WHS coach Steve Scanlon. "The kids are ready to go."

Hoping to have two good practices and get going.

Senior defenseman Bobby Cyr will be a crucial component in Wilmington's success against No. 26 Fitchburg in the Round of 32 on Wednesday.

"I think we're feeling good," said Cyr. "Placing Top 10 definitely helps drop in a few divisions. I think when you can play some of the lower teams first, it helps out getting some confidence under our feet."

Cyr — a member of the team since his sophomore season — is using his experience to lead a young team into the postseason.

"I've been around I've been playing for three years of playing regular shifts," he said.

"So just like the young kids who don't really get that much ice or are starting to play regular shifts this year, just like giving them some tips and pointers."

One of his primary points of emphasis is being physical, which has got the 'Cats off and running in the second half of the season. Before their season finale loss to Tewksbury on Tuesday, the 'Cats were winners in three of their last five games.

"I think we're going to have to pick up our physical game," he said. "We beat Billerica a few weeks ago, and we played really good in all three zones. We played hard. Other games we faltered taking the body and stuff like that. If we want to play hard and play fast, we can win."

Cyr accounted for two goals and three assists in

that stretch where Wilmington caught fire. The skillful defenseman isn't afraid to use his legs to join the rush.

"I like to play both ways," Cyr said. "I think defense is the most important thing, but if I could take the puck up and get a good offensive chance, I'm not shy enough to go make a play with the puck."

Wilmington's increased offense down the stretch of the regular season didn't end with Cyr. In a slew of first-time goal scorers in the last seven games — including tallies from Brennan Walsh, Tyler Florencio, AJ Chisholm, Eric Spinney, Ryan Archer, Ryan Weinstein, and Jake Tucker — Scanlon is hopeful that theme can translate into the postseason after scoring just 35 total goals this year.

"We'll need our strong goaltending, we'll have to play good team defense, and we'll have to get some timely scoring," said the coach. "That's something that's been a struggle for us this year, but the back half of the year with kids chipping in with their first goals, that's a bright sign."

The 'Cats drop the puck with Fitchburg on Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. at Breakaway Ice Center.

"You can't have a bad game, and you can't make a ton of mistakes," said Scanlon.

"There's really no tomorrow, and that's something you stress with the kids. You got to bring your A-game."

Sainato the backbone of girls hockey Maddie Sainato isn't the biggest goalie by any means — but she's huge for the Wilmington/Stoneham High girls hockey team.

The senior netminder has been no stranger to staying busy this winter,



Shaylan Bresnahan was a solid leader this season for the WHS girls basketball team.

facing an onslaught of shots in most of Wilmington/Stoneham's matchups this season. In fact, she likes it that way.

"When I'm getting peppered with shots, I do way better," she admitted earlier this season. "When I play lower-skilled teams, I'm very cold, and I could go a period with no shots. It's really boring, and it makes it so I'm not locked in and distracted."

There weren't many boring nights for Sainato in a league as competitive as the Middlesex League's Freedom Division, including non-conference opponents such as Tewksbury/Methuen and St. Mary's of Lynn. She'll face yet another challenge in the team's opening round bout in the Div. 2 tournament against Sandwich on Wednesday.

As long as Sainato is between the pipes, coach John LaPiana won't need to worry about his netminder letting in a freebie.

"Maddie is always square to the puck," said the coach. "She has great lateral movement post-to-post. You're probably not going to beat her with the initial shot."

Sainato stands about 5-foot-5, but she uses her size to her advantage. Her quickness is what makes her an elite goalie.

"I know I'm not the biggest, and I know that my legs don't reach out as far as other goalies," she said. "So I have to be quick."

"I come out of the crease as much as possible and cut off the shooter's angle, and square up to the puck

at all times," she added. "I can't really afford to be backed in the net as much as other goalies can be."

Sainato has been the starting goaltender for Wilmington/Stoneham since she was a freshman. In that time, she was a part of the squad that upset Tewksbury/Methuen two years ago before falling to Pope Francis in the opening round last spring. She's also made massive strides in terms of her skills, attending GDS in North Andover twice a week in the summers to perfect her skills.

"Those really helped me improve," Sainato said. "Since then, I've been going once a week in the offseason for the hour sessions. They just focus on what I need to work on."

That has helped me tremendously."

LaPiana has known Sainato since she was in fifth grade, noticing her development throughout her whole career as a goalie.

"I've seen her get stronger and more mature," said the coach. "I've watched her go from a little kid to a young woman."

Now, with her final playoff ride ahead of her, it's all about sticking with her mindset.

"I just have to focus on one shot at a time and not let the goals that get by me bother me," she said.

And one more thing — she can't forget her pre-game ritual.

"I get a refresher from either Dunkin' or Starbucks," said Sainato. "It's a need."

Shawsheen hockey boys are state champs

Rams cruise to vocational crown with 7-1 pounding of Diman

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
dougastings@gmail.com

The Shawsheen Tech boys hockey team wrapped up one of its most successful regular seasons in history on Saturday at the Warrior Ice Arena in Boston, skating to a convincing 7-1 victory Diman Regional to capture the state's vocational championship.

The win moved the Rams to 20-1 on the season as the Div. 3 state tournament opens on Thursday with a home game for Shawsheen at Billerica's Hallenborg Rink.

The vocational title game was tight early before the Rams erupted for five goals

in the first period to take an insurmountable lead.

Sophomore Justin Thibert of Wilmington opened the scoring at 4:30 with junior Dylan Higson of Bedford and junior Darion Considine of Wilmington picking up assists.

At 6:08, Shawsheen made it 2-0 when senior Chase Darcey of Billerica scored a goal assisted by senior Liam Milne of Wilmington and senior Kyle Gray of Wilmington.

Diman made it 2-1 before the Rams added another goal by sophomore Jacoby Patterson of Billerica with assists to Darion Considine and junior Ben Gibbons of Wilmington.



▲ The Shawsheen Tech boys hockey team won the state vocational title on Saturday in Boston.

(Courtesy photo)

Before the period ended, Higson and Gray had goals for the Rams. Sophomore Jake Banda of Wilmington, Patterson, Darcey and Thibert added assists.

Junior Zack Timmons of Wilmington put the finishing touches on the championship with a goal in each of the final two periods. Timmons' second-period tally was assisted

by junior Cam Splaine of Wilmington and Patterson and his third-period strike was assisted by Banda and senior Dom DiMambro of Billerica. Senior goalie Mike Ced-

rone had another solid game between the pipes with 12 saves before senior Nate Medieros of Billerica played net for the third period and made seven stops.

Wildcats progressed across the board, optimistic about the future

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent
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The Wilmington High School basketball team committed 200 less turnovers that last year this season.

The Wildcats also sank 40 more 3-pointers.

However, those numbers only contributed to one more tally in the win column, en route to a 4-16 finish this winter.

Despite not reaching

Boys basketball showed improvement

the state tournament and substantially expanding on their 2022-23 win total, the Wildcats success on the parquet this season is represented beyond their record.

On paper, let's start with the statistics, and 200 less turnovers is certainly a positive sign of growth.

"That's a little bit on everyone, but more on Tiago (Gomez), Ben (Marvin), and Mikey (Oatis)," said WHS coach Jon Amico. "They handled the ball the most, so that was our biggest improvement."

Primary ball handlers Gomez (10.1 points), Marvin (7.6), and Oatis (9.9) were at the top of their team in points per game, all playing between 25 and 27 minutes per game.

Yet, turnover numbers

plummeted.

The 'Cats also made it rain from three this season, drilling 112 triples. Oatis (26) led the team in 3-point makes, shooting them at a 31.3 percent clip.

Across the board, the 'Cats were a better statistically sound team on the court.

As a result, so was their point differential. Wilmington was in just about every game they competed in, whether it was against powerhouse Belmont or a less competitive opponent such as Saugus. And that is a credit to everyone.

"Everyone put in work in the offseason," said Amico. "We had two summer leagues and we had two fall leagues, and a bunch of kids played

AAU. You could see how much they improved from February of last year to November of this year."

But their improvement goes beyond crunching the numbers. When Amico inherited this program last season, it was all about changing the culture one day at a time.

"This group of kids tried to change the culture around here," said the coach. "Most of the sports in Wilmington in general haven't had much success in the Middlesex League."

Skill is a big part of that, but attitude is to. That's something that we really tried to tell these kids day in and day out. You can't drive to Belmont expecting to lose by 40, because then you're going to lose by 40. This year, the kids

went into every game expecting to win."

Having experience is everything, especially in one of the most contested leagues across the state. Despite graduating 10 seniors, Amico is optimistic about who is coming up in the program through the junior varsity ranks. Comparing last year to this year, experience made all the difference.

"I think probably experience would be the number one thing," said Amico. "Last year, Ben was really the only kid who had any experience, and Austin Harper. But other than that, it was very minimal experience for everyone else. They were getting thrown into varsity basketball, and especially the Middlesex League, it's no joke."

Among returners for next season will be Ayden Balter and Ryan Gray. Balter led the team in points per game (10.1, tied with Gomez), rebounds per game (8.2), steals per game (1.2), and minutes per game (27.1). Gray was a player who came on late in the season, showing some promise as Wilmington's sixth man. However, he's expecting a plethora of skilled players to come through the program to make an impact.

"A lot of the sophomores that were on JV, they all play AAU," he continued. "A lot of them play basketball year-round. Next year will probably be the team with the most basketball kids on it that we've had in the last few years."

Tildsley Brothers are all-state champions

Ram wrestling is second as a team, advance five to New England

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
dougahastings@gmail.com

Sometimes, the best game plan is screwing up the other guy's game plan.

Shawsheen Tech junior Sid Tildsley won his third consecutive all-state wrestling title on Saturday in Salem.

The victory came in overtime after a thrilling match that went back and forth until the final seconds of regulation. When Tildsley's opponent, Michael Boulanger of Milford, earned a point for an escape with less than 10 seconds to go, the packed crowd at Salem cheered wildly.

Everyone loves an underdog.

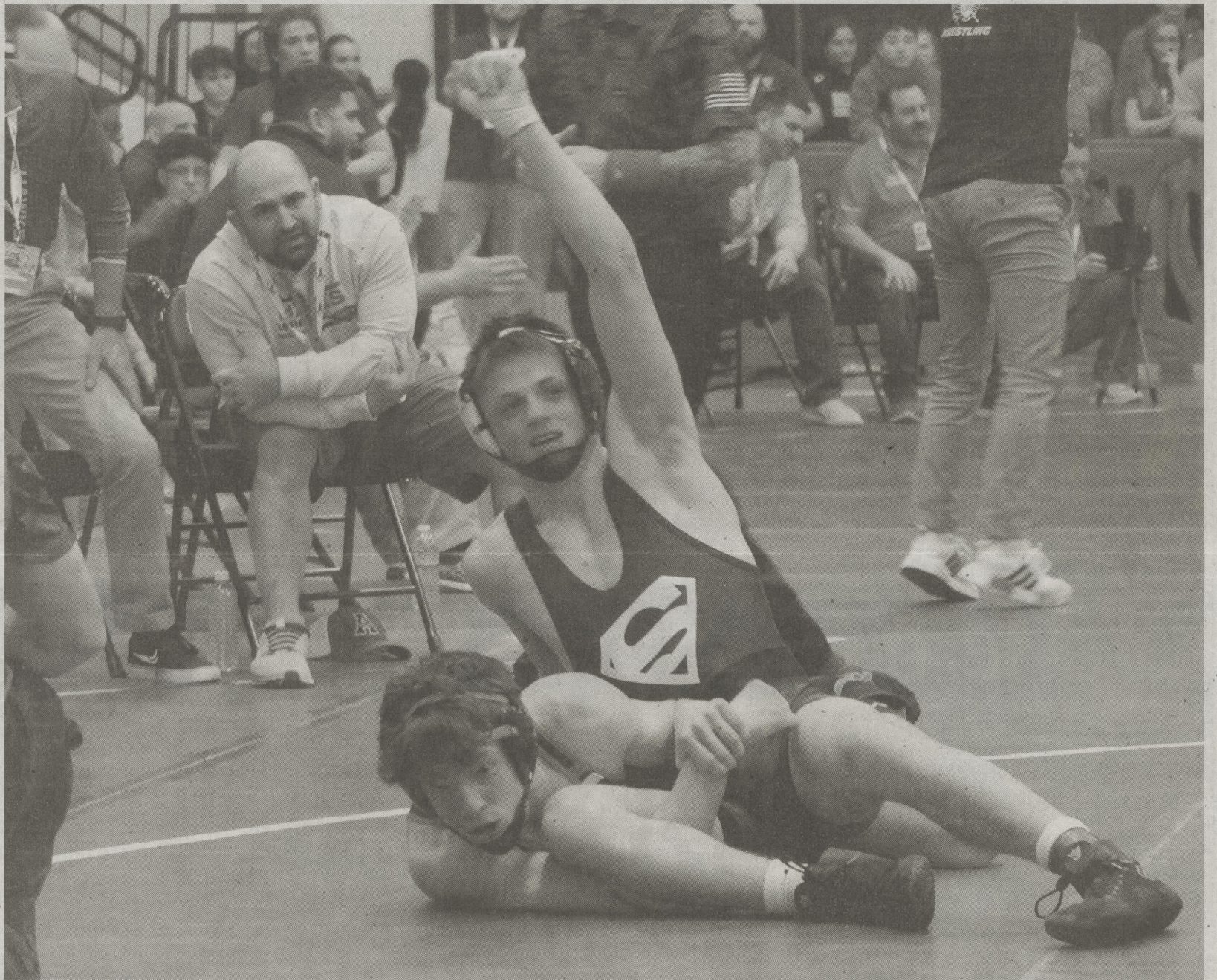
In overtime, Tildsley used a takedown to earn the victory, saluting both sides of packed bleachers before leaving the mat.

A key point in the match came with the score tied, 4-4. Tildsley allowed Boulanger to escape a hold and take a 5-4 lead. It was a strategic move, however, as it allowed Tildsley to secure another two-point takedown for a 6-5 lead.

That lead stuck until Boulanger escaped in the closing moments.

Tildsley becomes just the 15th wrestler in history to win three All-State championships in a row with a chance for No. 4 next winter.

While Sid was still answering questions from local reporters about his championship, sophomore James Tildsley was winning his first all-state title at 144 pounds with a 5-0 decision over Aidan Baum of Milford.



▲ Sid Tildsley celebrates after his overtime takedown earned him his third straight all-state wrestling crown.

(Photo by Doug Hastings)

An aggressive shooter, James traditionally wins his matches quickly. Against Baum, however, the game plan was to play it cool and stay in the center of the mat, away from the edges of the circle where defensive-minded grap-

plers can take chances, but scurry out of bounds quickly when trouble arises.

The strategy by Tildsley worked.

The counter-punching Baum was left without much chance to score

points without James cooperating.

The result was a shutout victory that was truly never in doubt.

The pair of champions helped the Rams finish second as a team behind only Haverhill and ahead

of third-place St. John's Prep.

Five Shawsheen wrestlers competed at the all-state event and four advanced to next weekend's New England finals with top-seven finishes.

Senior Caleb Caceres was

fourth at 132 pounds and Dante Graziano finished fifth at 113 pounds, both advancing to New England.

Dante Giusti competed at 120 pounds and finished eighth, one spot away from advancing.

Youth Hockey:

Bantam 1's advance to state tourney

The Wilmington Wildcat Bantam 1's faced off against the Wakefield Warriors the state playdowns with the winner earning the right to go to the Massachusetts State Tournament.

Wilmington won the game by a 4-0 score.

Wilmington came got off to a quick start and carried the play from the drop of the puck as play was mostly in Wakefield's zone.

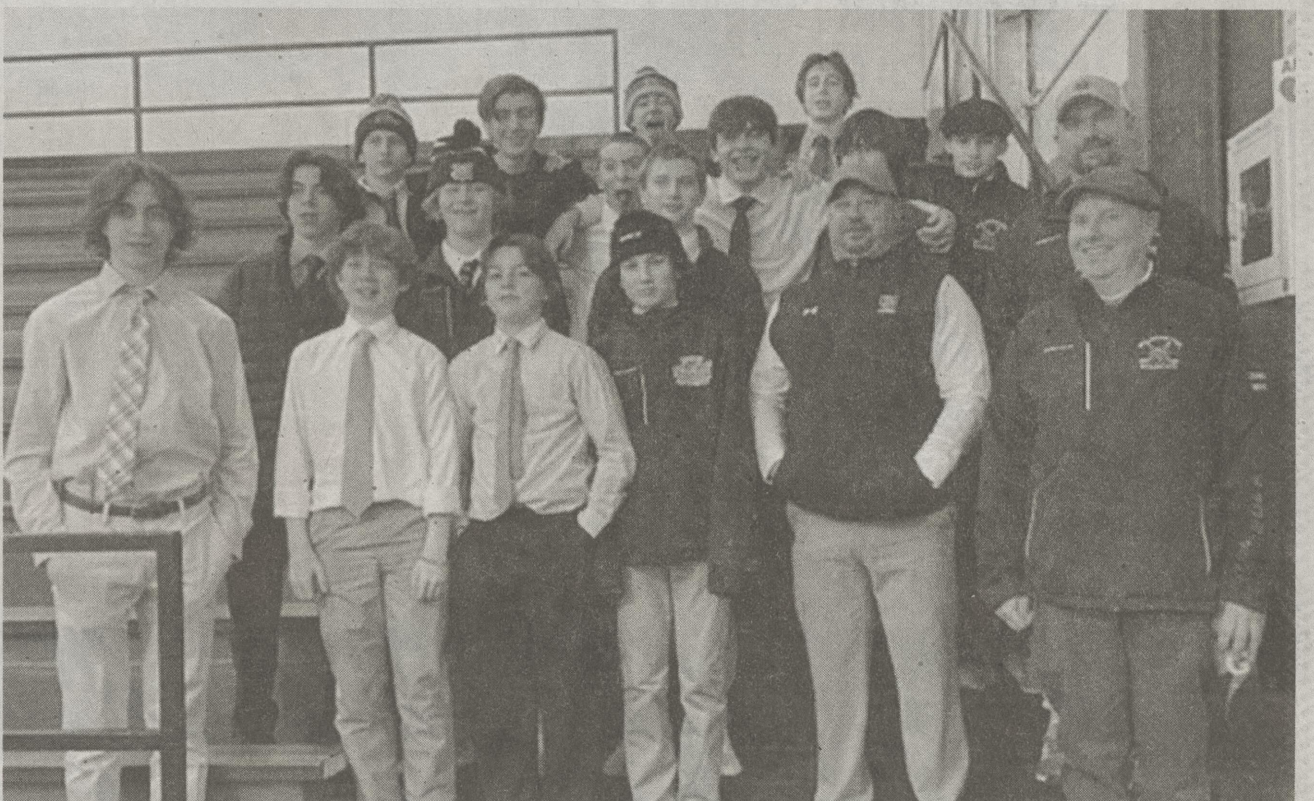
Dylan Mainini got the start in goal for the Wildcats.

After a scoreless first and second period, Wilmington was finally able to break through and take a 1-0 lead on a goal by Jon Cavanaugh after a faceoff

win by Nate Murphy, where Mickey Moroney fed Cavanaugh on the back door for the score just 25 seconds into the third period.

Wilmington would add another when the same line on the ensuing faceoff carried the play into the zone and Mickey Moroney put in a rebound off a Nate Murphy shot to put the Wildcats up 2-0 with 10:50 remaining in the game.

Ryann Hudd put Wilmington up 3-0 with 6:30 left in the game where he blocked a shot on the penalty kill and went in on a breakaway and scored the shorthanded goal. Wilmington was able to protect the three-goal lead and defenseman Nate An-



▲ The Bantam 1's include (back row, from left) Tyler Boutiette, Dylan Mainini, Cody Mastronardi, Connor Jamieson; (Second row) Henry Almeda, Dylan Minasian, Kyle Spencer, Nate Anderson, Mickey Moroney, Nate Murphy, Devin MacDonald, Bryan Spencer; (front row) Johnny Cavanaugh, Colin Doherty, Mason Voner, Ryan Hudd, Raymond Mercuri, Paul MacDonald.

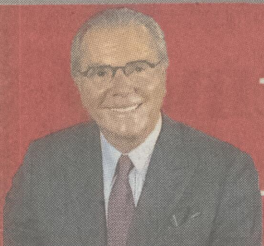
(Courtesy photo)

derson closed out the scoring unassisted with 1:45 left in the game.

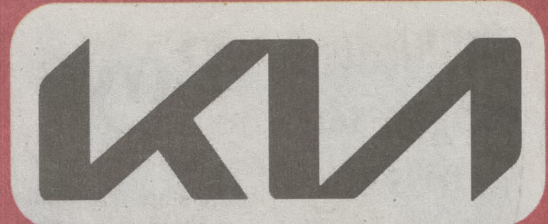
Mainini turned away all five shots in the period saving 13 total in the game

earning the shutout win. Wilmington now moves on to the state tournament start-

ing March 1 in Marlborough. Wilmington record improves to 19-7-4 overall.



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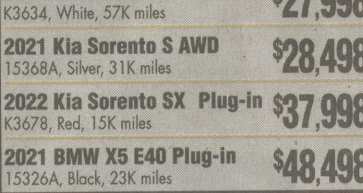
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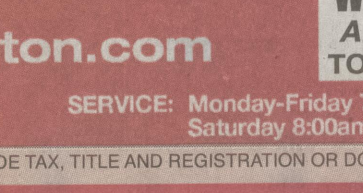
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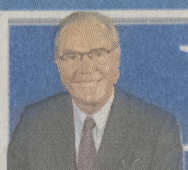
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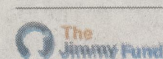
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